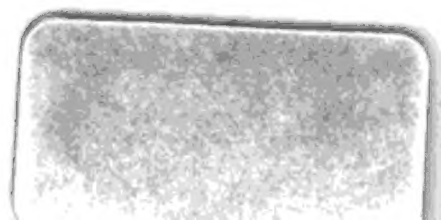


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THE LIVES  
OF  
EMINENT PHILADELPHIANS,  
NOW DECEASED.

COLLECTED  
FROM ORIGINAL AND AUTHENTIC SOURCES,

BY  
HENRY SIMPSON,  
MEMBER OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

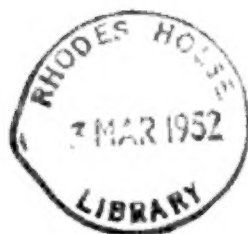
"Though fame is smoke,  
Its fumes are frankincense to human thought."  
BYRON.

ILLUSTRATED WITH FORTY-FOUR FINE ENGRAVINGS.

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PHILADELPHIA:  
WILLIAM BROTHERHEAD,  
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To

HORACE BINNEY, ESQ.,

*The accomplished Scholar; the distinguished  
Lawyer; the profound Civilian; the courteous  
Gentleman; the patriotic Citizen, and  
the Eminent Philadelphian;*

THIS VOLUME,

*which contains some record of those who in  
former times were alike true men and Eminent  
Philadelphians; and of whose virtues  
and civic services he is the  
worthiest living representative;*

IS DEDICATED,

*with sentiments of respect, esteem,  
and admiration, by his very obedient servant,*

THE AUTHOR.

## P R E F A C E.

---

THE lives contained in this volume will be found to be interesting, most of them being written by the contemporaries of the departed. “To arrange the worthies of humanity in groups, not so much with reference to the mere pursuits in which they were engaged, or the region in which they moved, but illustrated, rather, by the more subtle distinctions, which give a character and bias to their minds, is indeed a pleasant task.”

The Editor claims no great credit for this work, other than for untiring industry in collecting, from the kindness of their authors, the memoirs now presented in this volume to the public, and in enrolling the names and memoirs of those wise, charitable, and brave men, whose fame and great actions in life, give Philadelphia a character for benevolence, science, literature, and the fine arts.

The likenesses of David Rittenhouse, Stephen Girard, Bishop White, and Robert Morris, will not be found among our illustrations: their images are the household idols of many families; their portraits can be seen anywhere, and almost everywhere, and there is no danger of their memories being lost to posterity. We have done our best to furnish fine specimens of art, in likenesses of those of a more recent date.

We are under obligations to the Hon. Horace Binney, the Hon. Samuel Breck, the Hon. Joseph R. Chandler, the Hon. Henry D.

Gilpin, Charles J. Biddle, Esq., P. P. Morris, Esq., Samuel Hood, Esq., Dr. William Elder, Thomas L. Kane, Esq., Thomas Balch, Esq., C. B. Trego, Esq., Mr. William Brotherhead, and others, for important assistance rendered to us, and to whom we desire to express our thanks.

We are indebted to Messrs. Rice & Hart, the proprietors of the valuable standard work, the National Portrait Gallery, for important memoirs, and extracts of memoirs, which we could not readily find elsewhere; and to that work we take pleasure in referring for more full and extended biographies of some of our eminent Philadelphians.

We have taken the liberty of making a few extracts from Mr. John F. Watson's able and fascinating *Annals of Philadelphia*.

We are not asserting too much when we say, that the portraits from the burins of Messrs. John and Samuel Sartain will meet with the fullest approbation from the admirers of the fine arts.

PHILADELPHIA, October, 1859.



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## INTRODUCTION.

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MEMOIRS of distinguished men are, in the aggregate, the history of the times in which they lived. History is made, like the sea, from many sources. The thousands of rivers and lakes that empty themselves into the vast body of the ocean, are in the aggregate lost when embodied in one immense whole; the mighty Mississippi may be traced in its progress, and gulfs may be formed by immense streams, so as to be made out in a chart;—so is it with man. Obscure men sometimes are the causes of great revolutions; but it is impossible, like so many rivers that run into the ocean, to mark them out; but there are men whose thoughts have flowed as strong and as powerful as the mightiest of rivers, and whose names are indelibly fixed on our memories.

He who assists to preserve those landmarks—those intellectual giants, for the admiration of posterity, does great service to mankind. What should we be like, if by some means or other it would be possible to erase with one stroke the names of Shakspeare, Dante, Voltaire, Kant, Goethe, Schiller, Washington, Franklin, and thousands of others, from the scroll of fame? There is only one answer,—brutes. Then it is self-evident that it is one of the most important acts we can perform, to record the deeds of the mighty intellects of the day.

To become acquainted with the history of the past is the desire of every educated man. Not to know it, lowers us at once in the scale of human intelligence. We can form some idea of the difficulties of not knowing history when we come to investigate the early history of Christianity. Tertullian and Josephus have handed down to us some contemporary history, but still far from satisfactory; we fain would know more of those times that ushered in a new era, of the very greatest importance to the human family. The student of ecclesiastical history can best tell the difficulties attending such an inquiry.

The writings of the apostolic fathers have added much to our knowledge of Christianity; without them we should be in darkness on many points they elucidate. The destruction of the Alexandrian library is the greatest loss to history that has ever taken place; with it, it is fair to surmise, that many important historical questions, which are now doubtful, would be



easily explained. The errors of the past can alone be seen through the medium of history. We may cavil about exceptional points, but the broad marks of ages are as clear to be seen as the light of the sun in the heavens. We may cavil about the abuses of the Roman Church, and the excesses of the Protestants during the days of Queen Elizabeth; but the impartial observer can see evils in both. Brilliant as appears the literature of the Elizabethan age, yet there are many things hidden in obscurity that the untiring zeal of Malone, Drake, Hallowell, and Collier cannot unravel. The private life of the greatest genius of any age is almost buried in oblivion; relics of Shakspeare are prized next to those of our Redeemer: and right it is, for God seems to have concentrated in this one man a divine attribute, so wonderful are the works he has written. Shakspeare is not the only great genius of that age whose life is but little known: we have rare old Ben Jonson, Kit Marlowe, Beaumont and Fletcher, Robert Greene, Massinger, and others. If the men of that age had been as careful as we now wished they had been, all the commentators of the dramatists we have had these last seventy years would have had but little to write. The numerous glossaries that have been written on obscure words, and the different interpretations given by different writers, would have been avoided, if the importance of contemporaneous history had been fully understood. But such omissions have no doubt been the cause of the thinkers of this age seeing the importance of noting everything down that would elucidate any event, and even words that are now going out of use, and new words that are coined amid the traffic of the age, are all carefully preserved in their original meanings. The old Anglo-Saxon words that our most original writers used so plentifully and so successfully, are somewhat giving way to the revolutions in science and art. The Dictionaries of the present day would appear to an Elizabethan scholar a huge, ponderous mass of barbarous words. But notwithstanding these encroachments, there is a conservative element in the language that produces a reaction, and which will ever render it impossible to be superseded.

Probably not any man understood the value of contemporary history so well as Pepys. In his celebrated Diary we have chronicled all the leading events of his time; though by many of his day considered foolish, yet it is one of the most valuable fountains of historical lore that can be drawn from, and it should be added, inexhaustible. The stirring events of those times, though not chronicled with the brilliancy of a Macaulay, yet not the less true as facts. Without Pepys's Diary, the history of that period would be far from being so satisfactory as it now is; and succeeding ages will pay more tribute to his industry and foresight. Clarendon and Burnett, though they may be considered as partisans, yet more truth than error is to be found in their histories; it is only by thorough sifting of matters on both sides of the question that anything like truth will be found.

The early history of Philadelphia is fruitful of *materiel* for the historian. Penn, the founder of this State, may be considered to be common property. He is not merely known as the benevolent founder of Pennsylvania, but his history is identified as much with England. The brilliant history of Lord Macaulay, has given a new impetus to historical inquiry about this celebrated personage. The noble historian has made many grave and serious charges against Penn, which have as freely been denied by Janney, Dixon, and Paget, and which have again, in a later edition of Macaulay's England, been reiterated. Whether the charges are true or false, Penn will ever live in the hearts of Pennsylvanians as the most wise and benevolent founder of this commonwealth. If all the conquests that have been made by the Europeans had been characterized by the same justice, charity, fair dealing, integrity, and downright honesty, much less would have been said about cruelty and oppression.

But this city is rich in historical associations. We have the celebrated Rittenhouse, whose astronomical observations have gained him European renown. Godfrey, immortalized by his invention of the quadrant. Franklin's life and labors are identified with the history of this city; it was here that he first drew lightning from the heavens; and it was here, through the press, that he first made his name known to the world. The greatest historical painter that has yet flourished in England hails from this goodly city. Benjamin West was justly appreciated by George III; and though critics may now find fault with the coloring of West, and decry him in many ways, what painter has England yet produced that has painted anything equal to the "Death of Wolf," "Cromwell," "The Raising of Lazarus," "Death on the Pale Horse?" None. The efforts of Maclise, Ward, and others, fall far short of that grandeur and energy which West has embodied in many of his pictures. Critics may attempt to place West on the shelves, but his "Death of Wolf" will ever rank him as an historical painter of the first class, and decidedly the *first* historical painter that England can point to, though a Philadelphian by birth. The history of medical science in this city will have for its starting-point the name of Dr. Rush; and who so worthy? He has shed lustre on letters as well as science. The name of Fulton is known from the confines of Siberia to Mexico. The present commercial activity of the world is to a very great extent indebted to the introduction of steamships. It has advanced the progress of the world some centuries, and no one at this day can form any idea of the immense advantages the application of steam to ships has given to the world. In this discovery, as indeed in most of others, there is a great amount of controversy in this case as to whether John Fitch or Fulton first applied steam to vessels.

Thompson Westcott, in his recent Life of Fitch, strongly maintains that Fitch first applied steam, and if dates are reliable, he certainly makes

out a strong case. But whether it was Fulton or Fitch, for our purpose it is the same; we proudly inscribe them on the scroll of Philadelphia fame, and the world has already given them full credit. Bishop White, though not so well known in Europe, yet there are but few Americans who do not know his worth, and his connection with the Revolution. Bishop White's name will always stand as the first ecclesiastical landmark in the history of this country since the Revolution. Charles Brockden Brown is unanimously admitted to be the *first* American novelist. He was not only the *first*, but if a lasting reputation be proof of his genius, he is still the best. Brown's novels have been published several times, and a neat uniform edition has just appeared in this city, and they still continue to be read, and will ever do so. The greatest of all grammarians, of which Philadelphians are proud, is Lindley Murray. He not only was a great man, but a good one. His works have been published by the million, both in this country and England, and still are, and probably will continue so for years to come. General Mifflin and General Williams are familiar to all readers of the American Revolution. Commodore Decatur is known to every boy and girl in the country, and his heroism is a household word.

The Cadwaladers are well known for the distinguished military services they have rendered to their country in the hour of need. Robert Morris, the great financier of the Revolution, is well and deservedly known; without such men the sinews of war would not have been supplied. The Biddles, from the Revolution down to Nicholas, have been actively engaged both in military and commercial matters. The beneficence of Stephen Girard is raising monuments every day, and thousands of gladsome hearts will ere long call him "blessed."

We have thus given a synopsis of the claims which Philadelphians have in history, and it is earnestly submitted—Can any city in the Union equal this in such an array of distinguished names? From Penn down to Girard, we can truly say that, in Europe, Eminent Philadelphians are better known than those of any other city in the United States. If nature has not given us commercial advantages so great as some of our sister cities, yet in historic lore we have been, and will ever be, universally known.

W. BROTHERHEAD.



# EMINENT PHILADELPHIANS.

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## JAMES ABERCROMBIE, D.D.

DR. ABERCROMBIE was a learned and eloquent clergyman of the American Protestant Episcopal Church, and was born about the year 1758. During a part of his life, at least, he performed the double duty of a classical teacher and of a parish priest, to enable him to support a large and growing family. For many years he was one of the associated rectors of Christ Church, St. Peter's, and St. James's. In classical literature and impressive eloquence he had few superiors, perhaps none, among his brethren. As a teacher of youth, and as a preacher, he was widely known. He was twice married. He died at Philadelphia, the home of his long life, June 26th, 1841, in his eighty-fourth year.

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## ROBERT AIKEN.

ROBERT AIKEN was a printer of Philadelphia, and a highly respectable citizen thereof. In September, 1782, the demand for Bibles being great, and the price of them high, in consequence of the war, he published the first American edition of it; and Congress having appointed the Rev. Dr. William White, afterwards

the Right Reverend Bishop, and the Rev. Dr. Duffield, to examine it, they reported favorably, and recommended his edition of that holy book to the people of the United States; but peace taking place soon afterwards, Mr. Aiken sustained considerable pecuniary loss by his undertaking.

## WILLIAM ALLEN.

MR. ALLEN was Chief Justice of Pennsylvania, and was the son of William Allen, an eminent merchant of Philadelphia, who died in 1725. On the approach of the Revolution he retired to England, where he died in September, 1780. His wife was a daughter of Andrew Hamilton, whom he succeeded as Recorder of Philadelphia in 1741. He was much distinguished as a friend of literature. He patronized Sir Benjamin West, the painter. By his counsels and exertions, Dr. Franklin was much assisted in establishing the College in Philadelphia. He published the *American Crisis*, London, 1774; in which he suggests a plan "for restoring the dependence of America to a state of perfection." His principles seem to have been not a little arbitrary. On his resignation of the office of Chief Justice, to which he had been appointed in 1750, he was succeeded, till the Revolution, by Mr. Chew, Attorney-General, and Mr. Chew by his son, Andrew Allen. This son died in London, March 7th, 1825, aged eighty-five years. At the close of 1776, he put himself under the protection of General Howe, at Trenton, with his brothers John and William. He had been a member of Congress and of the Committee of Safety; and William a lieutenant-colonel in the Continental service; but in 1778, he attempted to raise a regiment of tories.

## JOHN ANDREWS, D.D.

DR. ANDREWS, Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, was born in Cecil County, Maryland, April 4th, 1746, and educated at Philadelphia. After receiving Episcopal ordination in London, February, 1767, he was three years a missionary at Lewiston, Maryland, and then a missionary at Yorktown, and a rector in Queen Anne's County, Maryland. Not partaking of the patriotic spirit of the times, he was induced to quit Maryland for many years. In 1785, he was placed at the head of the Episcopal Academy in Philadelphia, and in 1789, appointed Professor of Moral Philosophy in the College. In 1810, he succeeded Dr. McDowell as provost. He died March 29th, 1813, aged sixty-seven years. As a scholar he was very distinguished. He published a sermon on the Parable of the Unjust Steward, 1789; and Elements of Logic.

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## CAPTAIN SAMUEL ANGUS.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL ANGUS, of the United States Navy, was born at Philadelphia, in 1784. He entered the service when at the age of fifteen; in 1807, was promoted to the rank of lieutenant; in 1813, to that of master-commandant; and in 1818, to that of captain. He was several times severely wounded; in 1800, in an action between the Constellation and French frigate La Vengeance; soon after, in the action between the schooner Enterprise and a French lugger; in 1812, in an attack upon the English opposite to Black Rock; and afterwards while commanding the flotilla on Delaware Bay. He was selected by Messrs. Adams and Clay, as Commissioners for forming a treaty, to carry them to Ghent. Owing to injuries he had received when in the service, the mind as well as the health of Captain Angus became impaired, and he was ultimately dismissed from the navy. He died at Geneva, in New York, May 29th, 1840, aged fifty-six years.

## SAMUEL ARCHER.

BY WILLIAM D. LEWIS.

SAMUEL ARCHER was born at or near Columbus, in Burlington County, New Jersey, in the spring of the year 1771. He came to Philadelphia about the year 1800, and entered into the retail dry goods business; at length he became one of the largest importers and shipping merchants, and one of the great pioneers of the immense trade Philadelphia enjoys.

He was the senior partner of the firm of Samuel Archer & Co. (Robert L. Pittfield being the copartner), and of Archer & Bispham (Stacey B. Bispham having come in on the retirement of Mr. Pittfield). The business of the house, for that day, was immense, having reached in a single year over two millions of dollars in amount. The most of the Calcutta and China trade was then transacted in Philadelphia, and Samuel Archer & Co. were one of our largest importers of muslins and other fabrics of the East Indies, none of which were then manufactured in this country, and extensive importers of China goods. The net profits of the establishment, as shown by the profit and loss account at the close of the business for a single year, was one hundred and twenty thousand dollars, and for another year, to one hundred and eighty thousand dollars! The war of 1812, however, put a stop to importations; and the large business Mr. Archer by this time was doing as an importer of British manufactures, as well as the manufactures and products of the East, was of course suspended.

Samuel Archer, in connection with the late Robert Ralston, gave to that noble charity, the Orphans' Asylum, the lot of ground upon which the building at the corner of Cherry and Eighteenth Streets is erected.

There is an old maxim which says: "Fortune knocks once at least at every man's door." This was clearly so with respect to Samuel Archer, for he made fortunes as easily as he lost them, but his great error was,—placing too much confidence in others. He



JOHN H. BENTLEY DEL. J. H. BENTLEY SCULPT.

*Samuel Acker*

could not say No! to his fellow-man. Owing to the noble generosity of his character and his confiding nature, evinced by him on all occasions, as much as the boldness of his operations, the days of trouble came upon him; and never did adversity cast its shadow on the path of a better man.

In the autumn of 1810, Mr. Archer visited England, for the purpose of purchasing British and other goods; and his credit in London, Manchester, and other parts of Europe, was unlimited.

Samuel Archer held a prominent place among the enterprising merchants of our city for near half a century, and the writer never knew a man who united so many, and in so high a degree, the beauties of the true Christian character. When basking in the sunshine of great riches and prosperity, he possessed much simplicity of manners, and an utter absence of all display. He was emphatically an honor to his profession, and to the human race. Charity, benevolence, and uprightness, seemed to be the natural qualities of his character exhibited through life. He possessed a large stock of sterling good common sense, but was too honest for the tricks of modern commercial life and duplicity. Mr. Archer was the first merchant to introduce the trade of shipping to China American manufactured cotton goods, soon after the war of 1812 with Great Britain.

Mr. Archer did not belong to the Society of Friends, as a member, which an incident that occurred on board ship at sea, on a voyage across the Atlantic, will show. The sailing master of the British frigate *La Guerriere*, after boarding the ship *Hercules*, of New York, on the passage from Liverpool to New York, in 1811, accosted Mr. Archer, and taking hold of the collar of his coat, asked him if he was not a Philadelphia Quaker? to which he replied, "No, I am not, but incline towards that persuasion of religion, and give it the preference; but if thee lays thy hand upon me again, I will throw off the Quaker, and perhaps throw thee overboard!" The officer was satisfied, and retired.

Samuel Archer died in the year 1839, in the sixty-eighth year of his age.



## RICHARD BACHE.

RICHARD BACHE, Postmaster-General of the United States, was appointed in the place of Dr. Franklin in November, 1776, and was succeeded by Mr. Hazard in 1782. A native of England, he came in early life to this country, and was, at the beginning of the Revolution, chairman of the republican society in Philadelphia. He married Sarah, the only daughter of Dr. Franklin, who died in October, 1808; he died at Settle, in the county of Berks, Pennsylvania, July 29th, 1811, aged 74 years.

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## SARAH BACHE.

MRS. SARAH BACHE, the only daughter of Benjamin Franklin, was born in Philadelphia, in September, 1744, and in 1767 was married to Richard Bache, a merchant of that city. She is worthy of being remembered for her patriotic services in the time of the American Revolution, as well as for her good sense and domestic virtues. The winter of 1780 was a most trying one for the American army. Many of the soldiers were barefoot and only half clad. The ladies undertook to supply them with clothing. Robert Morris and other rich patriots contributed money, and the ladies purchased the necessary materials, and made the garments with their own hands. Mrs. Bache was one of the most zealous in this good work. The Marchioness de Lafayette contributed one hundred guineas, and the Countess de Luzerne gave six thousand dollars in Continental money. Those who had no money were active in the employment of the needle. It was charity of the noblest kind, and originated in the purest motives. During these beneficent services the Marquis de Chastelleux visited Philadelphia, and described his acquaintance with Mrs. Bache in the following glowing style: "If there are ladies in Europe," says he, "who need a model of attach-

ment to domestic duties and love to their country, Mrs. Bache may be pointed out to them as such. Simple in her manners, like her respectable father, she possesses his benevolence. She conducted us into a room filled with work, lately finished by the ladies of Philadelphia. The ladies bought the linen and made it into shirts for the soldiers of Pennsylvania. On each shirt was the name of the married or unmarried lady who made it, and they amounted to twenty-two hundred." Thus were the hearts of the suffering army made glad, and many a one no doubt saved from an untimely and agonizing death. On several other occasions, her active benevolence was called into exercise. She performed hospital duties, dressing the wounds of the soldiers, and administering to them medicines, cordials, and such other things as were calculated to mitigate their sufferings. Thus did she manifest her love for her country. Thus did she become an angel of mercy. Mrs. Bache died in 1808, at the age of 64 years.

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### SAMUEL BARD, M.D.

DR. SAMUEL BARD, the son of John Bard, a learned physician, was born in Philadelphia April 1, 1742, and died May 24, 1821, aged 70 years. When a boy, in order to screen a servant who had broken his father's cane, he falsely took the blame to himself. His father praised his generosity, but severely punished his falsehood, thus giving him a lesson on the value of truth, which he was careful to transmit to his children. From his mother he received early impressions in favor of religion. Residing one summer, on account of ill health, in the family of Lieutenant-Governor Colden, his father's friend, he acquired a taste for botany under the teachings of Miss Colden. His skill in painting enabled him to perpetuate the beauty of plants. While a student at Columbia College, he formed the habit of early rising—at daylight in summer, and an hour previous to it in winter—which he continued through life. In September, 1761, he embarked for England, in order to obtain a thorough medical education, and was absent, in France, England,



and Scotland, five years. His professional studies were pursued with undiminished zeal, and especially under the illustrious teachers in the school of Edinburgh. Such was his skill in botany, that he obtained the annual medal, given by Dr. Hope, the Professor, for the best collection of plants. He received his degree at Edinburgh in May, 1765. On his return, he found his father in debt for his education, which had cost more than a thousand pounds; he entered into partnership with him, and for three years drew nothing beyond his expenses from the profits of the business, amounting to £1500 a year. Having thus honorably discharged this debt, he married his cousin, Mary Bard, a lady of beauty and accomplishments, to whom he had long been attached. He formed this connection on a stock of £100, observing that "his wife's economy would double his earnings."

Dr. Bard formed the plan of the Medical School of New York, which was published within a year after his return. He was appointed Professor of the Practice of Physic. Medical degrees were first conferred in 1769. In the same year, the hospital was founded by his exertions; but the building was burnt, causing a delay of the establishment until 1791. In 1774, he delivered a course of chemical lectures. In the time of the war he left the city, placing his family in the house of his father at Hyde Park; but anxious to provide for his wife and children, and to secure his property, he, the next year, by permission, returned to New York, while the enemy had possession of it, and engaged anew in his professional business, after being a considerable time without a call, and reduced to his last guinea.

After the return of peace, Washington selected him as his family physician. At this period he lost four out of his six children by scarlatina, which prevailed in a violent form, attended with delirium. In consequence of the illness of Mrs. Bard, he withdrew from business for a year, devoting himself to her. A prayer for her recovery was found among his papers. In 1784, he returned to the city. At this period he devoted 5000 guineas to enable his father to free himself from debt. At another time, when he had accumulated 1500 guineas, he sent that sum to England, but lost it by the failure of the banker. On receiving the intelligence, he said to his wife, "We are ruined." But she replied, "Never mind

the loss; we will soon make it up again." Having formed the purpose to retire from business, he in 1798 removed to his seat in the neighborhood of his father at Hyde Park. But, when the yellow fever appeared, he resolutely returned to his post. By his fearless exposure of himself he took the disease; but, nursed by his faithful wife, he recovered. The remaining twenty-three years of his life were spent in happy retirement, surrounded by his children and grandchildren, delighted with their society, and finding much enjoyment also in agricultural improvements, in contemplating the beauties of nature, and in the gratification of his continued thirst for knowledge. For the benefit of those who, with himself, had engaged in rearing merino sheep, he published "The Shepherd's Guide." In 1813, he was appointed President of the College of Physicians and Surgeons. His discourses, on conferring degrees, were very impressive. He died of pleurisy, and his wife of the same disorder the preceding day: they were buried in one grave. It had long been their wish to be thus united in death, and a remarkable dream of Mrs. Bard to this effect was remembered.

He published a *Treatise de Viribus Opii*, 1765; on *Angina Suffocativa*, republished in vol. 1 *American Philosophical Society*; on the *Use of Cold in Hemorrhage*; *Compendium of Midwifery*, 1807, and subsequent editions; many occasional *Addresses to public bodies*; and *Anniversary Discourses to medical students*.

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## GENERAL JOHN BARKER.

GENERAL JOHN BARKER was appointed one of the aldermen of the city of Philadelphia, by Governor Thomas McKean, on the 22d October, 1800, and was elected Mayor of said city, by the Select and Common Councils, 20th October, 1808, and was re-elected in 1809. He was the father of James Nelson Barker, who was a captain in the United States Army, during the war of 1812, with Great Britain, and saw some service, and after the war received the appointment of Deputy Adjutant-General of the United States,

with the rank of Major. On the resignation in his favor, by his father, General John Barker, as an alderman of the city of Philadelphia, he was appointed to that situation by Governor Simon Snyder, on the 2d April, 1817, and elected Mayor of that city in 1819.

The General was a man of considerable mother-wit, and fond of cracking his jokes with whomsoever he came in contact. On the news reaching Philadelphia, of the capture of the British frigate *La Guerriere*, by the *Constitution*, he called at the Rubicam House, in South Sixth Street, to sink the *Guerriere*, as he termed it, and thus addressed the landlady, Mrs. Rubicam: "Mrs. Rubicam, let me have a glass of brandy and water to sink the *Guerriere* in;" which was given to him; and, after a while he returned a second, and then a third time, with the same demand; and, after taking the third glass, he was accosted by the landlady, she knowing his habits, thus: "Take care, General! take care, General! that in sinking the *Guerriere* you do not destroy the *Constitution*!"

General Barker was by trade a tailor, but a great politician, and a speaker, and often chairman of town meetings on exciting occasions. He had been an officer of the army of the Revolution, and was a great favorite with the Republican party in his day. He died in Philadelphia, April 3d, 1818, aged seventy-two years. He had been High Sheriff of the city and county of Philadelphia, Alderman of the city, and was a popular and humorous orator.

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### JAMES NELSON BARKER.

JAMES NELSON BARKER was the son of John Barker, Esquire, at one time Mayor of the city of Philadelphia, and at another, High Sheriff of the county of Philadelphia. James Nelson Barker held a commission in the army during the war of 1812, and was severely wounded in a duel before the close of the war. He was born June 17th, 1784, and educated in Philadelphia; and was, for many years, one of the aldermen of said city, by appointment from one of the Governors of Pennsylvania. Major Barker served his country gal-

lantly, on the Canada frontier, in the war of 1812; and, some years subsequently, was elected by the democracy Mayor of the city. He was an original and ardent supporter of "Old Hickory," for the Presidency, and was Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, from 1829 to 1838, when he was transferred to Washington City, by President Van Buren, as First Comptroller of the Treasury, and was, with a short intermission, connected with the Treasury Department ever since. He was a gentleman of fine literary taste, an earnest and energetic writer; and, during the Bank war and panic, from 1832 to 1836, was a constant and valued contributor to the columns of democratic journals, claiming attention not less from his ability than the force and originality of his thoughts. He was also the author of the successful drama of "Marmion," the tragedy of "Superstition," the comedy of "Smiles and Tears," and other smaller productions of merited popularity. He was, for several years, a contributor to American annuals, and wrote the beautiful poem called "The Sisters."

He was married, in early life, to an amiable and handsome woman, Miss Rogers, who died before he left Philadelphia, as a permanent residence. He died in Washington City, on the 9th March, 1858, in the seventy-fourth year of his age.

Major Barker was truly a man of genius; and, like all such men, too liberal to consider pecuniary interest, in any point of view. There was nothing selfish about him; as a friend, a soldier, or politician, he was liberal in the extreme, and seemed not to know how to be sordid; nay, even prudent, for his personal interest and welfare.

December 2d, 1812. "The British cannonaded Black Rock, which was returned with great spirit by the Americans from the battery commanded by Lieut. Stevens, consisting of a twenty-four pounder; and also from the battery at Col. Swift's encampment, consisting of an eighteen pounder and a twenty-four pounder; and from the battery at Black Rock ferry, called Fort Gibson, consisting of a twenty-four pounder, commanded by Captain Nathan Towson, and an eighteen pounder commanded by Captain J. N. Barker; a shot from the latter entered an embrasure, and dismounted a heavy gun, the carriage of which was disabled. This affair commenced in the British having wantonly fired upon an open boat passing up

the American shore, and resulted in their three batteries being effectually silenced.

“On the commencement of hostilities, he was appointed captain of artillery, and in 1812 commanded Fort Mifflin. During the early part of that year, in anticipation of an attack on Philadelphia by the British, three companies of volunteers, amounting to about one hundred and sixty men, under Captains Fisler and Mitchell, and Lieut. Thomas Gray, marched to garrison that fort, to every one of whom he endeared himself by his mild and gentlemanly conduct, though preserving, at the same time, the strictest military discipline; and such was the respect and esteem in which he was held by his soldiery, that he raised two companies of artillery, and marched with them to the Canadian frontier. It is deeply to be regretted, however, that such was the foothold the horrible practice of duelling had obtained in the army, sanctioned even by a duel between the two commanding generals (A. Smyth and P. B. Porter), that he was also obliged to engage in one, and was wounded by a ball having passed through both of his thighs, which, for several years, incapacitated him from active service; he was, therefore, appointed, in 1814, Assistant Adjutant-General of the Fourth Military District. On the return of peace, he received the appointment on the peace establishment of Deputy Adjutant-General of the United States, with the rank of Major, four only of whom were retained in the service. On the resignation in his favor, by his father, General John Barker, as an alderman of the city of Philadelphia, he was appointed to that situation.

“Major Barker did not confine himself to the field of Mars: as a votary of the Muses he has contributed largely to the amusement of the sons of harmony and glee, by a number of patriotic and other songs; and by the amateurs of the drama, his ‘Indian Princess,’ first acted in Philadelphia, April 6th, 1808, was received with the most flattering approbation.”



## CAPTAIN JOHN BARRY.

CAPTAIN BARRY, of the United States Navy, although born in Ireland, in the county of Wexford, in the year 1745, was a true Philadelphian in feeling and character. A passion for a maritime life, which he displayed at an early age, induced his father, who was an agriculturist, to place him on board of a merchantman. The intervals of his voyages were assiduously occupied in the improvement of his mind. At the age of fourteen or fifteen, he emigrated to America, and having entered into the employment of the most respectable merchants of this country, continued to pursue his favorite profession with earnestness and signal success. The commencement of the war of Independence found him a prosperous man, actively employed and rapidly acquiring wealth. To that contest he could not long remain indifferent. His ardent love of liberty, combined with those admirable qualities which were the foundation of his growing reputation, impelled him to sacrifice the highest prospects, to embark in the noble, but impoverishing, struggle for freedom by his adopted country. He accordingly abandoned, to use his own language, "the finest ship and the first employ in America," and entered into the service of his beloved country.

In 1776, he was employed by Congress to fit for sea the first fleet which sailed from Philadelphia; and by the authority of the Council of Safety of that city, he superintended the building of a state ship. In the month of March of the same year, he was requested to take command of the brig *Lexington*, of sixteen guns, and clear the coast of the enemy's small cruisers, with which it was infested; and he successfully performed the duty assigned to him. Prior to the Declaration of Independence, he was transferred to the command of the frigate *Effingham*, and in the succeeding winter he displayed fresh proofs of his enterprising and patriotic spirit. The frigate being useless, in consequence of the suspension of the navigation, he sought other means of aiding the cause he had espoused. Having obtained the command of a company of volunteers, and some

heavy cannon, he assisted in the operations at Trenton, and continued with the army during the winter campaign, performing important services, and winning admiration and respect.

In September, 1778, he was appointed to the command of the frigate *Raleigh*, of thirty-two guns, which then lay at Boston, and on the 25th went to sea. In 1781, he was appointed to the command of the frigate *Alliance*, of thirty-six guns. In the succeeding fall, Captain Barry was ordered to refit the *Alliance*, for the purpose of carrying the Marquis de Lafayette and Count Noailles to France, on public business. In March, 1782, the *Alliance* left the Havana, for the purpose of convoying the American sloop-of-war *Luzerne*, Captain Greene, having on board a large amount of specie, the safety of which was of the utmost importance to the country. The appearance of a British squadron proved a severe trial of the naval skill and dauntless courage of Captain Barry. The specie was removed to the *Alliance*, and the valuable treasure saved from the grasp of the enemy; and after a battle with an English sloop, and the abandonment of the *Luzerne*, a sail, which had appeared in sight prior to the engagement, was now discovered to be a French frigate. The united forces now gave chase to the British, which was continued until they lost sight of them in the darkness of night. The specie that was saved contributed to found the Bank of North America, at Philadelphia, chartered by Congress.

The active and useful life of this distinguished hero was closed by an asthmatic affection, with which he had been for many years afflicted. He died at Philadelphia, on the 13th September, 1803.

His private life was as estimable as his public career was brilliant.

## BENJAMIN SMITH BARTON.

BENJAMIN SMITH BARTON, Professor in the University of Pennsylvania, and the son of the Rev. Mr. Barton, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania; born February 10th, 1766. His mother was the sister of Rittenhouse, whose life was written by his brother, William Barton. After spending several years in study in Philadelphia,

he went to Edinburgh and London, in 1786, to pursue his medical studies. His medical degree he obtained in Gottingen. In 1789, he returned to Philadelphia, and commenced the practice of physic. In the same year, he was appointed Professor of Natural History and Botany in the College. He succeeded Dr. Griffiths as Professor of *Materia Medica*, and Dr. Rush as Professor of Medicine. He died December 19th, 1815, aged forty-nine years.

Dr. Barton was distinguished by his talents and professional attainments. He contributed much to the progress of natural science, and his various works evince a closeness of observation, an extent of learning, and a comprehensiveness of mind, honorable to his character. He was the first American who gave to his country an elementary work on botany. His publications are the following: *On the Fascinating Quality ascribed to the Rattlesnake*, 1796; *New Views of the Origin of the Tribes of America*, 1797; *Collections towards a Materia Medica of the United States*, 1798; *Remarks on the Speech attributed by Jefferson to Logan*, 1798; *Medical Physical Journal*, begun 1804, continued several years; *Eulogy on Dr. Priestley*; *Elements of Botany*, with eighty plates, 1804—also in two volumes, forty plates, 1812; *Flora Virginica*, 1812; an edition of Cullen's *Materia Medica*, 1808; *Account of the Syren Lacertina*; *Observations on the Opossum*, 1813; *Collections on Extinct Animals, &c.*, 1814; *Fragments of the Natural History of Pennsylvania*; *Remedy for the Bite of a Rattlesnake*; *On the Honey Bee*; *On the Native Country of the Potato*; and other papers in the *American Philosophical Transactions*.

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## JOHN BARTRAM.

JOHN BARTRAM was a most accurate observer of nature, and one of the first botanists this country ever produced; a self-taught genius, whom Linnæus called "the greatest natural botanist in the world." He seated himself on the banks of the Schuylkill, below Gray's Ferry, where he built a comfortable stone house, and formed his botanic garden, in which there still remain some of the most



rare and curious specimens of our plants and trees, collected by him in Florida, Canada, &c. The garden was for many years kept up with much skill by Colonel Carr, who married his granddaughter, and is now owned by Andrew M. Eastwick, Esq., who has converted it into a beautiful suburban residence. Mr. Bartram enjoyed, for many years preceding the Revolution, a salary as botanist to the royal family of England.

In 1729, James Logan, in a letter to his friend in England, thus writes respecting him, saying: "Please to procure me Parkinson's Herbal. I shall make it a present to a worthy person, worthy of a heavier purse than fortune has yet allowed him. John Bartram has a genius perfectly well turned for botany. No man in these parts is so capable of serving you, but none can worse bear the loss of his time without a due consideration."

Hector St. John, of Carlisle, has left a picturesque description of things seen and observed of John Bartram and his garden, &c., as they appeared on a visit made to him before the Revolution. Here Mr. Bartram, with his visitor, his family, and slaves, all sat down to one large table, well stored with wholesome fare. The blacks were placed at the foot, the guest near the host; there was kindness from the master to them, and in return they gave him affection and fidelity. The whole group and manner reminds one of the patriarchal manner of the Old Testament. Some whom he freed still chose to remain with him until their death. Bartram described his low grounds as at first a putrid, swampy soil, which he succeeded to reclaim by draining and ditching. Although he was a Friend, he had a picture of family arms, which he preserved as a memorial of his forefathers, having been French. In his visit, he particularly speaks of noticing the abundance of red clover sowed in his upland fields—an improvement in agriculture, since thought to have not been so early cultivated among us. He spoke of his first passion for the study of botany, as excited by his contemplating a simple daisy, as he rested from his ploughing, under a tree; then it was he first thought it much his shame to have been so long the means of destroying many flowers and plants, without ever before stopping to consider their nature and uses. This thought, thus originated, often revived, until at last it inspired real efforts to study their character, &c., both from observation and reading.

John Bartram was born in the year 1701, in Chester County, in Pennsylvania, being of the second line of descent from his grandfather, John Bartram, who, with his family, came from Derbyshire, England, with the adherents of the justly famed William Penn, proprietor, when he established the colony, and founded the city of Philadelphia, Anno Domini 1682.

Thus, being born in a newly settled country, at so vast a distance from the Old World, the seat of arts and sciences, it cannot be supposed that he could have acquired great advantage from the aid of literature; having acquired, however, the best instruction that country schools could afford at that early time, and every opportunity, by associating with the most learned and respectable characters, with difficulty he obtained the rudiments of the learned languages, which he studied with extraordinary application and success. He had a very early inclination and relish for the study of the materia medica and surgery, and acquired so much knowledge in these sciences as to administer great relief to the indigent and distressed. And as the vegetable kingdom afforded him most of his medicines, it seems extremely probable this might have excited a desire, and pointed out to him the necessity of the study of botany. Although bred a husbandman and cultivator, as the principal means of providing subsistence for supporting a large family, yet he pursued his studies as a philosopher, being attentive to the economy of nature and observant of her most minute operations. When ploughing and sowing his fields, or mowing the meadows, his inquisitive mind was exercised in contemplating the vegetable system and animated nature.

He was probably the first Anglo-American who designed, or at least carried into operation a botanic garden, for the reception of American plants, as well as exotics. He purchased a convenient place on the banks of the Schuylkill, near Philadelphia, where, after building a house of hewn stone with his own hands, he laid out a large garden, containing six or seven acres of ground, that comprehended a variety of soils and situations, and soon replenished it with many curious and beautiful vegetables, the fruits of his distant excursions; but though highly gratified and delighted with beholding the success of his labors, yet his benevolent mind contemplated a still greater pleasure, which was to com-

municate his discoveries and collections to Europe and other parts of the earth, that the whole world might participate in his enjoyments. He was fortunate in the society and friendship of many literary and eminent characters of America, namely, Dr. Franklin, Dr. Colden, J. Logan, Esq., and several others, who, observing his genius and industry, liberally assisted him in establishing a correspondence with the great men of science in England, particularly P. Collinson, whose intimate friendship and correspondence continued unabated nearly fifty years, and terminated only with life, through whose patronage and philosophy his collections relating to natural history, and physiological and philosophical investigations, were communicated to men of science in Europe, and annually laid before their societies, of which he was in fellowship.

He employed much of his time in travelling through the provinces then subject to England, during the autumn, when his agricultural avocations least required his presence at home. The objects of his journeys were collecting curious and nondescript vegetables and fossils, and the investigation of the economy of nature. His ardor in these pursuits was so vigorous and lively that few obstacles opposed or confined his progress; for even the summits of our highest mountains were witnesses of his indefatigable labors.

The shores of Lakes Ontario and Cayuga contributed, through his hands, to embellish the gardens and enrich the forests of Europe with elegant flowering shrubs, plants, and useful ornamental trees. The banks and sources of the rivers Delaware, Susquehanna, Alleghany, and Schuylkill, received his visits at a very early date, when it was difficult and truly perilous travelling in the territories of the aborigines. He also travelled many thousand miles in Virginia, Carolina, and East and West Florida, in search of materials for natural history, and to enrich the funds of human knowledge. At the advanced age of seventy years, he performed an arduous and dangerous task,—a tour into East Florida. Arriving at St. Augustine, he embarked on board of a boat at Picolota, on the river St. Juan, navigated with three oars and a sail, with a hunter to provide fresh meats. From Picolota he proceeded up the east bank of its source—originating from immense inundated marsh meadows, the great nursery of swarms of fish and reptiles, the winter asylum of the northern fowl, ducks, and the anser tribes, in their annual festive

visits to their southern friends, but held in awe by the thunder of the devouring alligator; and returning down the west bank to the capes, noting the width, depth, and course of its winding flood, and the vast dilatations of the river with its tributary streams, at the same time remarking the soil and situation of the country, and natural productions.

His stature was rather above the middle size, erect and slender; visage long; countenance cheerful and gay, regulated with a due degree of solemnity. His manners were modest and gentle, yet his disposition active and of the greatest good nature. A lover and practiser of justice and equity. Such a lover of philanthropy, charity, and social order, that he was never known to enter into litigious contest with his neighbors. He was thought a rare example of temperance, particularly in the use of vinous and spirituous liquors, as well as other gratifications; not from a passion of parsimony, but in respect to morality; nevertheless, he always maintained a generous and plentiful table. Annually, on New Year's day, he made liberal entertainment, at his own house, consecrated to friendship and philosophy.

He was industrious and active,—indulging repose only when nature required it, observing that he could never find more time than he could with pleasure employ, either intellectually or in some useful manual exercise; and was astonished when people complained that they were tired of time, not knowing how to employ it, or what they should do.

In observing the character of illustrious men, it is generally an object of inquiry of what religion they were. He was born and educated in the Society of Friends, or Quakers, devoutly worshipped the Supreme Being, the Creator and Soul of all existence, all goodness and perfection. His religious creed may be seen by any one, sculptured by himself, in large characters, on a stone in the wall over the front window of his apartment where he usually slept, and which was dedicated to study and philosophical retirement.

This pious distich runs thus:—

'Tis God alone, the Almighty Lord,  
The Holy One by me adored.

JOHN BARTRAM—1770.

He was an early and firm advocate for maintaining the natural



and equal rights of man, particularly for the abolition of negro slavery, and confirmed his zeal in these great virtues by giving freedom to a very excellent young man of the African race, at the age of between twenty and thirty, whom he had reared in his house from a young child; and this man manifested in return the highest gratitude and affection, for he continued constantly in the family to the end of his life, receiving full wages as long as he was able to perform a day's work.

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## WILLIAM BARTRAM.

WILLIAM BARTRAM, a botanist, son of John Bartram, an eminent botanist, was born at the Botanic Garden, Kingsessing, Pennsylvania, in 1739. After living with a merchant, in Philadelphia, six years, he went to North Carolina, engaged in mercantile pursuits; but, attached to the study of botany, he accompanied his father to East Florida. After residing, for a time, on the river St. Johns, in Florida, he returned to his father's residence, in 1771. In April, 1773, at the request of Dr. Fothergill, he proceeded to Charleston, in order to examine the natural productions of Carolina, Georgia, and the Floridas, and was thus employed nearly five years. His collections and drawings were forwarded to Dr. Fothergill. His account of his travels was published in 1791. It is a delightful specimen of the enthusiasm with which the lover of nature, and particularly the botanist, surveys the beautiful and wonderful productions which are scattered over the face of the earth. Of himself Mr. Bartram said: "Continually impelled by a restless spirit of curiosity, in pursuit of new productions of nature, my chief happiness consisted in tracing and admiring the infinite power, majesty, and perfection of the great Almighty Creator, and in the contemplation that, through divine aid and permission, I might be instrumental in discovering and introducing into my native country some original productions of nature, which might be useful to society."

Reposing in a grove of oranges, palms, live oaks, and magnolias, in the midst of beautiful flowers and singing birds, he cried out:









1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part outlines the specific procedures and protocols that must be followed when recording transactions. This includes details on how data should be collected, stored, and reviewed to ensure its integrity and reliability.

3. The third part addresses the role of the management team in overseeing the record-keeping process. It stresses the need for regular communication and collaboration between the management and the staff responsible for maintaining the records.

4. The fourth part discusses the importance of training and education for the staff involved in the record-keeping process. It highlights the need for ongoing professional development to ensure that the staff are up-to-date with the latest best practices and technologies.

5. The fifth part concludes by reiterating the overall goal of the document: to ensure that the organization's records are accurate, complete, and accessible at all times. It encourages the management and staff to work together to achieve this goal.



"Ye vigilant and most faithful servants of the Most High ; ye who worship the Creator morning, noon, and eve, in simplicity of heart ! I haste to join the universal anthem. My heart and voice unite with yours in sincere homage to the great Creator, the universal Sovereign."

In 1782, he was elected Professor of Botany in the University of Pennsylvania, but, from ill health, declined the appointment. Besides his discoveries in botany, he prepared the most complete table of American ornithology before the appearance of the book of Wilson, whom he assisted in the commencement of that work. Such was his continued love to botany, that he wrote a description of a plant a few minutes before his death, which occurred suddenly by the rupture of a bloodvessel in the lungs, July 22d, 1823, in the eighty-fifth year of his age. He published "Travels through North and South Carolina, Georgia, East and West Florida, and the Cherokee Country, with Observations on the Manners of the Indians," with plates, 8vo., Philadelphia, 1781 ; the same, London, 1792 ; and translated into French by Benoist, entitled "Voyage," &c., 2 vols., Paris, 1801 ; "An Account of J. Bartram ;" "Anecdotes of a Crow ;" "Description of Certhia ;" "On the Site of Bristol," &c.

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## PAUL BECK, JR.

PAUL BECK, JR., an eminent merchant and philanthropic citizen, was born at Philadelphia, being descended from a family of respectability and wealth, settled at the ancient and picturesque city of Nuremburg, the capital of the circle of Franconia, and a free city of the old German empire.

His father, Paulus Julianus Michäelis Beck, was married at Philadelphia, April 5th, 1757, having come to Pennsylvania in August, 1752. He had emigrated from Germany after an apprenticeship at Nuremburg to a cloth merchant, with whom he was placed when very young at the death of his parents, who not long previously, had been suddenly reduced from a state of affluence.

The subject of the present notice, the third child, and only son

of his parents who survived extreme infancy, about the age of fourteen years, in accordance with the custom then prevailing in mercantile business, was placed as an apprentice with Mr. William Sheaff, a prominent and successful wine merchant, respected for his integrity, but rigid in his discipline. From his lessons, and under his care, Mr. Beck rapidly acquired great skill in accounts, an excellent penmanship, which he never lost, and especially those prompt and accurate habits of commercial dealing which were destined to lead him rapidly to fortune, as they secured for him through life the highest position as an honorable merchant.

Before the term of his apprenticeship expired, the war with England broke out, and the Continental Congress passed a resolution, which was communicated to all the colonies, recommending that all able-bodied and effective men, between sixteen and fifty years of age, should form themselves into regular companies of militia. As soon as he attained the former age, Mr. Beck was enrolled in one of the companies of the first battalion of infantry, organized in Philadelphia, and commanded by Captain John Linton. Although Mr. Beck did not aspire to military distinction, yet it will be seen that, throughout the war, he was on the side of patriotism and duty. A part of his time was spent in Philadelphia, Pottsgrove, Reading, Lancaster, and other places. It was during this period that he formed friendships, which continued through his subsequent life, with many estimable citizens of Philadelphia, who embarked with zeal similar to his own in the Revolutionary cause. He preserved and used, until his death, a gold snuff-box presented to him by Major William Jackson, for some time the confidential secretary of General Washington. He is mentioned as the associate of the Clymers, General Mifflin, Major David Lenox, and others equally well known; and it fell to his lot, from these associations, to be among the citizens, though himself only nineteen years of age at the time, who assembled to protect the mansion of Mr. Wilson, afterwards one of the framers and signers of the Constitution of the United States, when it was attacked by a mob.\* He treasured up and was fond of relating many incidents connected with the Revolutionary era, and that which immediately succeeded it, when the

\* An interesting account of this event appears in volume sixth of "Lives of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence," edition 1824.



newly established Federal Government was seated in this city. When, in later years, the second war with Great Britain occurred, he had lost none of his patriotic zeal; for though his age and peaceful pursuits no longer justified its exercise in a similar manner, he came forward at once to support the efforts of the Government, and subscribed seventy-five thousand dollars to the loans it was procuring in order to carry on the war.

At the close of the Revolution, and shortly after he came of age, he entered upon the mercantile life, which he continued afterwards uninterruptedly to pursue. From documents, it appears he united himself in a partnership with Mr. James Caldwell, which was terminated by the death of that gentleman in 1787. From that period down to the year 1844, when he died, his account books afford an ample opportunity of tracing the origin and progress of his success, and exhibit a remarkable picture of steady increase in prosperity and wealth. Possessing, at the close of the first year in which he was thus engaged, a property estimated by him at no more than four thousand pounds in the currency of the State, his fortune had gradually increased in 1797 to sixty thousand pounds and upwards; and at his death, in the year 1844, it exceeded one million and a quarter of dollars. It was not more in this large augmentation of his property that his industry, integrity, and ability were shown, than in the regularly progressive accumulation—exhibiting his continued perseverance and skill in the line of life he had selected in his youth, and in the uniform increase of his standing among his fellow-citizens as a liberal merchant, not only alive to the honorable prosecution of his own business, but uniting with it a name and patriotic interest in the mercantile prosperity of Philadelphia.

Though averse to public office, he accepted and held, for a long time, the post of Warden of the Port of Philadelphia, which was tendered to him, without solicitation, by the Governor of the State; and, in the exercise of its duties he was, at all times, most attentive and industrious, carefully examining and promoting every means which contributed to preserve or extend the facilities of the port as a resort of commerce.\* It may not, however, be inappropriate to

\* The Board of Health, July 26th, 1821, adopted, at their meeting, the following resolution: "Resolved, That the thanks of this Board be presented to Paul Beck, Esq., for the good example he has set in covering his wharf with a substantial pavement, a measure no less

mention a circumstance, in this connection, which displayed his conscientious avoidance of everything that might seem to connect his public duty with his private interest. Being desirous to extend some wharves, belonging to himself, farther towards the channel of the river, and the assent of the Board of Wardens being required, he at once tendered his resignation of his own commission, to take effect before his application should be considered. Though his proffered resignation was not sent to the Governor by the Master Warden, yet he did not attend any meeting of the Board of Wardens till the subject he had referred to was finally disposed of.

Another subject which elicited his active exertion, was the improvement of the front of the city facing the river Delaware. It is well known that the original plan of William Penn provided for a broad and noble quay, occupying the entire space from the western side of Front Street, and extending from one extremity of the city to the other. This design was at first partially, and afterwards entirely disregarded; so that, in the space which the wise founder intended especially to leave open, the most irregular and closely built portion of the city had come to exist. In the pestilences which occasionally occurred, it was the prolific seat of disease, and to the general trade of the port it presented a most serious obstacle.

Not daunted by the prejudices and accumulated interests of more than a century's occupation, Mr. Beck determined to make an effort to restore the original design of William Penn. He obtained plans for the alteration, and estimates of its cost. He wrote and published\* a clear exposition of its utility and feasibility; and he proceeded in enlisting the favorable co-operation of many prominent citizens. As illustrative of this fact, we insert the following extracts, made from the documents annexed to a report of the joint committee of Councils, relative to the malignant or pestilential diseases of the summer or autumn of 1820, in the city of Philadelphia:—

called for by an enlightened self-interest, than the promotion of the public welfare, and which, if followed generally, promises to produce the most salutary consequences."

\* Reprinted in the collections of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Vol. I, 1853, p. 382, with the following note: "The pamphlet which is here reprinted, appeared originally in the year 1820, and was written by the late Paul Beck, Jr. The letter from Mr. Girard, which is added to it, is published for the first time. Mr. Girard provided in his will for improving Water Street, and the river front, in a way much inferior, it must be admitted, to the mode here proposed."

“The annexed communications from medical societies, the Board of Health, and individuals, as well as the public testimony of a late committee of citizens, prove the existence of nuisances unheard of before the present investigation, which obviously require the active interposition of the constituted authorities. A plan for their suppression, and for other purposes, has been recently published by a gentleman distinguished for his philanthropy and enterprise, commended by many, and urged upon the notice of Councils by medical men of all parties. Deeply sensible, as your committee are, of the beneficial and permanent effects on health, to result from its completion, there are considerations attending it which restrain them from a full examination of its merits. Nor is the plan so well understood by all the advocates of its general tendency, as to present distinct parts for deliberation; and, if it were, the corporation is not competent alone to accomplish it. The Legislature, the judiciary, the patriotic supporters of the scheme, and the individuals to be affected by its adoption—the Board of Health and the Wardens of the Port—should be consulted. Moreover, it is acknowledged to be capable of amendment; it will receive its perfection from the hands in [which] it rests. Time will be necessary to make it worthy of the unequivocal patronage of its friends, whose activity and zeal might be checked by any interposition of Councils. To prevent the spreading of malignant fever among us, the Board of Health should have full powers to remove vessels and persons, and to prevent communication with infected places; also, to have infected houses, bedding, and clothing thoroughly cleansed. And lastly, we would recommend a strict attention to the means of producing cleanliness, and free ventilation; especially in those parts of the city near the Delaware, where the malignant fever has always made its first appearance. This cannot be done whilst Water Street continues in its present confined condition, with the accumulated filth of many years, and for the most part without privies. We therefore strongly recommend the prosecution of the plan, now in contemplation, of removing the whole of the buildings from the east side of Front Street, inclusive, to the river, beginning at Vine and ending at South Street, according to the original plan of William Penn, the wise and intelligent founder of our city.

“By order of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia.

“THOMAS PARKE,

“President.

“JOHN R. COATES,

“Chairman.

“December 14th, 1820.”

“DEAR SIR: Entertaining a conviction that the disease commonly called yellow fever may originate in foreign as well as domestic filth, the Academy of Medicine have instructed us to say, in reply to the communication which they have had the honor to receive through you, from a Committee of the City Councils, that in their opinion the most effectual plan which probably, at present, could be executed, of preventing a recurrence of the evil, would consist in a more vigilant exclusion of foul vessels from hot climates, and in greater attention to cleanliness, particularly as regards the eastern part of the city.

“It being understood that the Board of Health will soon take up this subject, with a view to an application for some further legislative provisions, the Academy hold in reserve for a conference with that body, to which they have reason to believe they will be invited, the details of these suggestions.

“Deeply impressed, however, with its importance, they cannot forbear to express to the Councils, in the strongest terms, their approbation, as an anterior measure, of the well-known proposal of Mr. Beck, under an entire persuasion that it is pre-eminently calculated to afford security against the revisitations of the pestilential forms of fever. To such conclusion they are led by the fact, that whether the yellow fever be of local origin or imported, it has uniformly made its appearance on the water side of the city, where it is quite certain that a state of things only exists to generate or nourish it, and by proof scarcely less indisputable, that the disease has never prevailed to any extent west of Fourth Street.

“Dear Sir, your most obedient servants,

“SAMUEL JACKSON,

“N. CHAPMAN,

“ALEX. WRIGHT.

“JOHN R. COATES, Esq.,

“Chairman.

“PHILADA., Dec. 23, 1820.”



“The plan for altering the eastern part of the city, as proposed by Mr. Beck, if it can be made practicable, appears to promise a reasonable expectation, that it would effect an exemption from this fatal scourge. It will be equally operative on either of the doctrines that are held with respect to disease. If it be of domestic origin, by removing and suppressing the numerous and unavoidable sources of vile nuisances, of confined and foul air, which must exist in that portion of the city as it now is, the disease must be effectually prevented from occurring. On the other hand, as it is very generally considered by those who believe the disease to be contagious, and to be produced by imported contagion, that it can only be propagated in confined places and in an impure atmosphere, by procuring a free circulation of air and establishing cleanliness, the disease cannot spread after it is imported.

“Whether the plan of Mr. Beck is practicable or not, is a question that is not considered necessary for us to examine. It is before the public, who are best able to determine the merits of the scheme, as well as the propriety of its execution.

“When the disease has once made its appearance, the experience acquired in this city during the past summer and autumn, and in New York in the preceding year, furnishes the most ample and satisfactory proof, that the immediate removal of the inhabitants from the district infected, preventing access to it by the erection of barriers, and freeing it from all nuisances that might occasion noxious exhalations, are quite adequate to prevent its progress and even to effect its total suppression.

“With sentiments of respect,

“Your obedient servant,

“SAMUEL JACKSON,

“President of the Board of Health.

“JOHN R. COATES, Esq.,

“Chairman, &c.

“PHILADA., Jan. 29, 1821.”

It encountered opposition, however, from several influential quarters, but especially from Stephen Girard, who addressed him a letter, which was published, declaring that he “was strongly opposed to the execution of his plan.” He found himself at last reluctantly obliged to abandon it. The provisions of Mr. Girard’s will, made

at a later date, by which he appropriated, among his other noble donations to Philadelphia, no less than half a million of dollars to improve the avenue along the Delaware, and to widen and straighten Water Street, are a proof that, to a considerable extent, he brought himself subsequently to concur in the opinions of Mr. Beck ; and although he was not in favor of the particular plan proposed by him, yet he was satisfied of the importance of such improvements, to secure the health and promote the convenience of the community.

The next subject connected with the general benefit of the city, to which Mr. Beck turned his attention, was fortunately carried through with success. From an early day, the importance to the commerce of Philadelphia of a navigable water communication from the Delaware to the Chesapeake Bay had been recognized. It had twice been undertaken : the first time previous to the revolutionary war, when surveys, plans, and estimates for several routes had been made ; and a second time at the beginning of the present century, when the work was actually commenced, and some progress made, though this was soon stopped from inability to raise a sufficient capital. In the year 1821, a strong disposition arose among the merchants of Philadelphia to make a third effort to accomplish this important object. Mr. Beck at once enlisted in it with characteristic zeal. He united in public addresses and in private appeals to the citizens ; he subscribed liberally himself, and obtained large contributions from others ; he became one of the managers, and devoted himself to the work regardless of the interference with his own personal occupations. It was greatly, if not mainly due to his exertions, while he filled this office, that the canal was executed on the bold plan which now makes it one of our most remarkable works of internal improvement, that of a deep cutting through the elevated summit, and a capacity sufficiently deep and wide to admit sailing vessels of large draught and tonnage, such as navigate the bays and even the ocean.

In the character of a successful and enterprising merchant, and an active, influential, and public-spirited citizen, Mr. Beck added that of a friend and promoter of art and literature, and more especially of a wise and generous philanthropist.

Throughout his life, he displayed a taste and fondness for pic-



tures, of which he had a considerable and valuable collection. He was among the founders and early friends of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. He bequeathed to that institution a number of his pictures, and he always readily extended generous sympathy and aid to rising artists. Among his letters, one was found, after his decease, written to him in 1811, by a youthful painter, whose subsequent and just reputation proves the correctness of Mr. Beck's foresight. The language of the author is so touching, when taken in connection with his present fame, as to justify its insertion. It was written to Mr. Beck by Mr. Charles R. Leslie, when, still quite a youth, he first visited Europe, to cultivate, by study and instruction there, the genius which then seemed to give the promise, since realized, of his great future success. "Permit me," he writes to Mr. Beck, "on my departure for England, to leave my best thanks with you, as the only testimonial which it is at present in my power to give of the deep gratitude with which my heart is penetrated for your kind liberality in patronizing a youth unknown to fortune—perhaps almost unknown to you. Whether my future days be passed in sunshine, on the pinnacle of fame, or among the fogs in the vale of obscurity, I shall always retain a lively remembrance of your early and efficient patronage." To many literary institutions, but especially to the Historical Society, and the Apprentices' and Mercantile Library Companies, he was a liberal contributor; and the claims and wants of the meritorious youthful author, as of the youthful artist, never failed to secure from him a kindly response.

It was, however, to institutions of philanthropy that his energies were most actively devoted, and his assistance generously and liberally given. Of the numerous institutions of this kind which confer so much honor on Philadelphia, it is perhaps impossible to name one of which he was not the efficient patron and friend. For services rendered as Treasurer of Christ Church Hospital, Mr. Beck received, April 23d, 1827, the thanks of the Vestry of the united churches—Christ Church, St. Peter's, and St. James's. Throughout his life, he devoted his time and services to them, and was always a prompt and abundant contributor. At his death, his bequests were large in the aggregate and widely extended. No difference of religious opinion affected or governed his philan-

thropy. Though he was a zealous, attentive, and conscientious worshipper in the Protestant Episcopal Church, and willingly united to advance and sustain its influence, yet his tolerant piety was always ready to befriend the religious efforts of those of other persuasions. From among many instances of this enlightened spirit, which the history of his life affords, one may be mentioned; that of his prompt donation of ten thousand dollars and a lot of ground for the erection of a Methodist Episcopal Church in the district of Moyamensing, which, he had learned, it was the desire of a number of that persuasion to establish. "Fervently do we supplicate our heavenly Father," said the pastor and congregation, on receiving his generous gift, "to shower down upon you and your family the blessings of the new and everlasting covenant, humbly trusting that you may be spared many years to witness the great amount of good which shall be done by the sound conversion of precious, immortal souls, within the walls and under the roof raised by your bounty." He erected, at his own expense, a large and commodious school in the same neighborhood, and gave it to the society for the support of charity schools, prescribing only the conditions that it should be maintained in good order, and that no exception or preference should be shown in regard to the religious persuasion of the children.

In the Institution of the Deaf and Dumb he was a liberal benefactor, and its active and efficient President. To the corporation of the city of Philadelphia he secured two annuities, each of five hundred dollars, to be applied forever to the purchase of fuel and the supply of soup to the poor. But especially to an institution of widely diffused and judicious beneficence was he particularly devoted,—the American Sunday-School Union. As early as the year 1791, a "First day, or Sunday-School Society," had been established in Philadelphia, and those who united in the enterprise were of different denominations of Christians. In 1817, a more extended society was formed, with a view to promote the establishment of Sunday-schools, not in the city only, but in the villages in the country. The operation and influence, however, of these associations were quite local, but they suggested the idea to the pious men who were united in them, that a new and more general organization might be formed to concentrate the efforts of Sunday-

school societies throughout the United States, to disseminate useful information, to supply teachers and missionaries, and to circulate moral and religious publications in every part of the land. The grand principle of this Union was, that, as the essential truths of Protestant Christianity are held in common by all evangelical denominations, such as Presbyterians, Baptists, Congregationalists, Episcopalians, Lutherans, and others, religious people, whatever might be their particular creed, might well unite to advance them; and that missions and agencies might be established, and books might be supplied from a common fund, and under a united organization, which would secure the confidence of all. In the year 1824, this excellent system was undertaken in Philadelphia, and resulted in the establishment of the American Sunday-School Union. While the beneficent object appealed strongly to the charitable sensibilities of Mr. Beck, its plan of liberal religious toleration, harmony, and co-operation was particularly in accordance with his own views of Christian duty.

He entered zealously into it. He became at once an active manager, and subsequently one of its Vice-Presidents. He was a large contributor to its pecuniary means during his lifetime and by his will. Very soon after its establishment, he consented to be its Treasurer, which post he continued to hold for eighteen years. In addition to his general duties, as a Manager and Vice-President, he superintended its finances with particular ability; and before death terminated his philanthropic duty, he had the satisfaction to see its revenues so largely increased as to diffuse its missions, its schools, its libraries, and its books to an extent far beyond what his sanguine hopes had contemplated when he entered upon the benevolent enterprise. It may well be supposed that his associates mourned his loss. "For eighteen years," they said in a letter to his son, "he was associated with us in the management of the Union, and during all that period, until his unavoidable retirement from active life, he was never absent from his place, nor delayed the discharge of any of its claims."

The personal habits of Mr. Beck were simple and unostentatious; nor did they undergo any change in this respect, when fortune had placed him among the wealthiest of the citizens of Philadelphia. His life was devoted from first to last to his family, his business,

and liberal philanthropic undertakings. He was twice married,—at first to Margaret Parker, a descendant of the Swansons, Swedish settlers previous to the arrival of William Penn; and afterwards to Mary, daughter of Job Harvey,\* a member of the Society of Friends, and a much-respected citizen of the State of Delaware. Of his children, by these marriages, but two survived him, Henry Paul Beck, and Dr. Charles Frederick Beck.† Of his surviving grandchildren, two reside in Philadelphia, Dr. Paul B. Goddard, and the Rev. Kingston Goddard,—both being of distinguished professional reputation. In the year 1842, the health of Mr. Beck began to fail, so as to oblige him to withdraw from the public social intercourse which, until then, he had cultivated. He gradually declined during the two succeeding years, and finally expired, at his residence in Market Street, on the 22d day of December, 1844. His body was at first deposited in St. Paul's Church, and subsequently removed to South Laurel Hill Cemetery, where his surviving sons have placed the remains of their parents. He had directed that the ceremonies of his interment should be conducted in the plainest manner; and that, in lieu of the expenditures usual on such occasions, the sum of three hundred dollars should be distributed among the poor, but charged, by his executors, as “funeral expenses.” A large concourse of persons, however, were present, anxious to pay the last tribute of respect to a fellow-citizen whom most of them had long known and truly esteemed. The following notice, from the pen of one of these, and written at the time, expresses sentiments, in the justice and truth of which all will concur:—

“The blameless life of Mr. Beck; his useful and enlarged public charities; his benevolence exhibited in a multitude of private acts, that only have their record in heaven or in hearts that have been cheered thereby, secured to him a respect and an interest beyond that which his great wealth could secure. Yet

\* His grandfather had emigrated, with others, from Derby, Derbyshire, England, in the year 1697, and founded with them the village or town now called Darby, a few miles from Philadelphia.

† Dr. Beck died at Rome, Italy, February 13th, 1859, after a brief illness, having left Philadelphia in the month of June preceding, for the recovery of his health. Dr. Beck had previously visited Europe, after the completion of his collegiate and medical studies, and where his tastes for scientific pursuits were much improved. He left no children.



wealth, the result of his skill as a merchant, created for him neither envy nor hostility. He had acquired it by no extortion; and the means by which he gathered his property, served to enrich thousands, and enable the families of the industrious to rejoice in gains arising from employment which his liberal enterprise provided. He was liberally-minded; and, in the improvement of his own estate, had ever in view public convenience and the embellishment of his native city. Many of the great schemes of benevolence, in Philadelphia, owe much of their success to his munificent encouragement, and some enjoyed his personal supervision as long as his health would permit. His death will be mourned by thousands, and his good deeds held in continued, grateful remembrance."

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### GREGORY T. BEDELL, D.D.

DR. BEDELL was an eloquent and popular clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church. He was born in Staten Island, October 28th, 1798, and graduated at Columbia College, New York, in 1811. His father was Israel Bedell, and his mother was a sister of the Right Rev. Richard Channing Moore, D.D., Bishop of Virginia. Soon after leaving college he commenced preparation for holy orders, and was ordained Deacon, by Bishop Hobart, on the 4th of November, 1814, within one week after he had attained the canonical age. In the summer of 1815, he accepted the rectorship of the church in Hudson, on the North River. In the latter part of the year 1818, he left Hudson, and removed to Fayetteville, N. C., having been invited to assume the duties of rector of the church in that place. Here he remained successfully occupied in the labors of his profession for more than three years, when he was induced, from declining health, to seek a more northern residence. On his return to his native State, he made a short visit to Philadelphia, and during his stay of a few days arrangements were made for the erection of a new church, of which he was to be the rector. The corner-stone was laid September 9th, 1822, and it was consecrated



May 31st, 1823. From this period until his death, Dr. Bedell continued to officiate in St. Andrew's Church, and the parish, during his whole ministration, experienced great prosperity. None could have heard him preach without remembering and appreciating the peculiarities of his oratory. His death took place on the 30th of August, 1834. Notwithstanding the feeble health of Dr. Bedell, but few clergymen have accomplished so much as he did in the same space of time. In addition to the various labors connected with his station as rector of a large parish, and to those growing out of the interest he took in the public institutions of the church, he wrote and published many works. And it is but an act of justice to his memory to say, that whatever came from his pen was creditable to him as a scholar as well as a clergyman.

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### REV. JOSEPH BELCHER, D.D.

THIS gentleman died in Philadelphia on the 10th July, 1859, in the sixty-sixth year of his age. He was born in Birmingham, England, April 5th, 1794, and emigrated to this country in 1844, where he commenced his services in the Baptist Church. Dr. Belcher was a man much known in England among the *literati*. He was a personal friend of Robert Hall, the greatest of all England's preachers, and in this country we have the fullest and most complete collection of his writings edited by Dr. Belcher, and published by the Harpers of New York. The number of his publications reach nearly two hundred, many of which have attained enormous circulations. Among these may be mentioned "The Life of Whitfield;" "Life of William Carey, Missionary to India;" "The Life of Andrew Fuller," published by the American Baptist Publication Society; and the "Life of Robert Hall," published by Harper and Brothers, of New York. His "History of Religious Denominations" also sold enormously, 10,000 copies having been disposed of in a single year in the State of Indiana alone. "Flavel's Fountain of Life," "Sketches from Life," the "Baptist Manual,"

and a vast number of similar works, which are household words in thousands of Christian families, were also from the prolific pen of this lamented writer.

He has also furnished many biographies for the "American National Portrait Gallery," and he has written for Graham's Magazine a history of the State-House in Philadelphia.

His last work is now in press. It is a "History of Hymns and their Authors." The good old man had just commenced indexing his completed work when the hand of Death struck away his pen. When upon his death-bed, alluding to his unremitting literary toil, he said to his eldest son, "When I was your age I tried to do the work of five men. I am now paying the penalty of that task."

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## ROBERT BELL.

THE original edition of "Common Sense" was published in Philadelphia by Robert Bell, with whom it is said that Paine was then employed as a clerk. Robert Bell was a Scotchman, who came to Philadelphia in 1766. He had been a partner as a bookseller in Dublin with the facetious George Alexander Stevens. He was first an auctioneer, and afterwards a bookseller in Philadelphia, where he published Blackstone's Commentaries by subscription in 1772, "a stupendous enterprise for the times." The Revolution broke up his business, and he turned auctioneer again and peddler, dying at Richmond, in Virginia, in 1784. He headed his auction announcements, "Jewels and diamonds to be sold or sacrificed by Robert Bell, humble proveditore to the sentimentalists;" and sought subscribers to Blackstone with the invitation: "Intentional encouragers, who wish for a participation of this sentimental banquet, are requested to send their names to Robert Bell."

## ANTHONY BENEZET.

MR. BENEZET, a philanthropist of Philadelphia, was born at St. Quintus, a town in the province of Picardy, France, January 13th, 1713. About the time of his birth, the persecution against the Protestants was carried on with relentless severity, in consequence of which many thousands found it necessary to leave their native country, and seek a shelter in a foreign land. Among these were his parents, who removed to London in February, 1715, and, after remaining there upwards of sixteen years, came to Philadelphia in November, 1731. During their residence in Great Britain, they had imbibed the religious opinions of the Quakers, and were received into that body immediately after their arrival in this country.

In the early part of his life, Benezet was put apprentice to a merchant; but soon after his marriage, in 1732, when his affairs were in a prosperous situation, he left the mercantile business, that he might engage in some pursuit which would afford him more leisure for the duties of religion, and for the exercise of that benevolent spirit for which, during the course of a long life, he was so conspicuous. But no employment, which accorded perfectly with his inclination, presented itself till the year 1742, when he accepted the appointment of instructor in the Friends' English School of Philadelphia. The duties of the honorable, though not very lucrative office of a teacher of youth, he from this period continued to fulfil with unremitting assiduity and delight, with very little intermission, till his death. During the two last years of his life, his zeal to do good induced him to resign the school which he had long superintended, and to engage in the instruction of the blacks. In doing this, he did not consult his worldly interest, but was influenced by a regard to the welfare of men whose minds had been debased by servitude. He wished to contribute something towards rendering them fit for the enjoyment of that freedom to which many of them had been restored. So great was his sympathy with everything capable of feeling pain, that he resolved, towards the close of his life, to eat no animal food. This change

in his mode of living is supposed to have been the occasion of his death. His active mind did not yield to the debility of his body. He persevered in his attendance upon his school till within a few days of his decease. He died May 3d, 1784, aged seventy-one years.

Such was the general esteem in which he was held that his funeral was attended by persons of all religious denominations. Many hundred negroes followed their friend and benefactor to the grave, and, by their tears, they proved that they possessed the sensibilities of men. An officer, who had served in the army during the war with Great Britain, observed at this time, "I would rather be Anthony Benezet in that coffin, than George Washington with all his fame." He exhibited uncommon activity and industry in everything which he undertook. He used to say that the highest act of charity was to bear with the unreasonableness of mankind. He generally wore plush clothes, and gave as a reason for it that, after he had worn them for two or three years, they made comfortable and decent garments for the poor. So disposed was he to make himself contented in every situation that, when his memory began to fail him, instead of lamenting the decay of his powers, he said to a young friend, "This gives me one great advantage over you, for you can find entertainment in reading a good book only once; but I enjoy the pleasure as often as I read it, for it is always new to me." Few men, since the days of the Apostles, ever lived a more disinterested life; yet, upon his death-bed, he expressed a desire to live a little longer, "that he might bring down self." The last time he ever walked across his room was to take from his desk six dollars, which he gave to a poor widow, whom he had long assisted to maintain. In his conversation he was affable and unreserved; in his manners gentle and conciliating. For the acquisition of wealth he wanted neither abilities nor opportunity; but he made himself contented with a little, and, with a competency, he was liberal beyond most of those whom a bountiful Providence had incumbered with riches. By his will, he devised his estate, after the decease of his wife, to certain trustees, for the use of the African school. While the British army was in possession of Philadelphia, he was indefatigable in his endeavors to render the situation of the persons who suffered from captivity

as easy as possible. He knew no fear in the presence of a fellow man, however dignified by titles or station; and such was the propriety and gentleness of his manners in his intercourse with the gentlemen who commanded the British and German troops that, when he could not obtain the object of his requests, he never failed to secure their civilities and esteem.

Although the life of Mr. Benzet was passed in the instruction of youth, yet his expansive benevolence extended itself to a wider sphere of usefulness. Giving but a small portion of his time to sleep, he employed his pen both day and night in writing books on religious subjects, composed chiefly with a view to inculcate the peaceable temper and doctrines of the Gospel in opposition to the spirit of war, and to expose the flagrant injustice of slavery, and fix the stamp of infamy on the traffic in human blood. His writings contributed much towards meliorating the condition of slaves, and undoubtedly had influence on the public mind in effecting the complete prohibition of that trade, which, until the year 1808, was a blot on the American national character. In order to disseminate his publications, and increase his usefulness, he held a correspondence with such persons in various parts of Europe and America, as united with him in the same benevolent design, or would be likely to promote the objects which he was pursuing. No ambition or covetous views impelled him to his exertions. Regarding all mankind as children of one common father, and members of one great family, he was anxious that oppression and tyranny should cease, and that men should live together in mutual kindness and affection. He himself respected, and he wished others to respect the sacred injunction, "Do unto others as you would that they should do unto you." On the return of peace, in 1783, apprehending that the revival of commerce would be likely to renew the African slave trade, which, during the war, had been in some measure obstructed, he addressed a letter to the Queen of Great Britain, to solicit her influence on the side of humanity. At the close of this letter, he says: "I hope thou wilt kindly excuse the freedom used on this occasion by an ancient man, whose mind, for more than forty years past, has been much separated from the common course of the world, and long painfully exercised in the considerations of the miseries, under which so large a part of man-



kind, equally with us the objects of redeeming love, are suffering the most unjust and grievous oppression, and who sincerely desires the temporal and eternal felicity of the queen and her royal consort."

He published, among other tracts, "An Account of that part of Africa Inhabited by Negroes," 1762; "A Caution to Great Britain and her Colonies, in a short representation of the Calamitous State of the Enslaved Negroes in the British Dominions," 1767; "Some Historical Account of Guinea, with an Inquiry into the Rise and Progress of the Slave Trade," 1771; "A Short Account of the Religious Society of Friends," 1780; "A Dissertation on the Plainness and Simplicity of the Christian Religion," 1782; "Tracts against the Use of Ardent Spirits;" "Observations on the Indian Natives of this Continent," 1784.

In his work, "A Caution to Great Britain and her Colonies," he quotes the Baron Montesquieu as saying, "that nothing more assimilates a man to a beast than living amongst freemen, himself a slave."

To such an extent did Benezet carry his good will to every living creature, that he regularly fed the rats in his yard to keep them from stealing.

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## NICHOLAS BIDDLE.

THE progenitors of Nicholas Biddle were among the first settlers of New Jersey and Pennsylvania; of the former State, his ancestor, William Biddle, was one of the early proprietors. Charles Biddle, his father, was an active patriot during the Revolutionary struggle, and under the Constitution of 1776, Vice-President of the Commonwealth, when Benjamin Franklin was the President. The brothers of Charles Biddle, who, with like spirit, espoused the cause of their country, were Commodore Nicholas Biddle, who was blown up in the frigate Randolph, in a desperate and unequal conflict with a British ship of the line; Edward Biddle, who, having served as a captain in the war of 1756, was a member of the first Congress, in 1774, and during its session was seized with a fatal malady, of which he some time after died; and James Biddle, who

held the office of Deputy Judge of the Admiralty, before the Revolution, and after it, was appointed President Judge of the First Judicial District. A near kinsman, Colonel Clement Biddle, served with distinction under Washington, and enjoyed, in a high degree, his confidence and friendship.

In 1778, Charles Biddle married Miss Hannah Shepard, of North Carolina. The subject of this memoir was born on the 8th of January, 1786, at Philadelphia. At the age of thirteen, he had completed the course of study at the University of Pennsylvania; he then entered Princeton College, where he took his degree in his fifteenth year, dividing the first honor with a competitor of maturer years. He then studied the law in Philadelphia, for three years; but, being under the age for admission to the bar, he, in 1804, went to Europe, as Secretary to General Armstrong, the United States Minister to France. He was present at the coronation of the Emperor Napoleon, in Paris.

At this time, the purchase of Louisiana and the indemnification for injuries to American commerce were in progress, and young Biddle, at the age of eighteen, managed the details with the veterans of the French bureau, in whom his juvenile appearance and precocious ability excited much surprise. Leaving the legation, he travelled through the greater part of the Continent of Europe; to his classical attainments, he there added a thorough mastery of the modern languages, which he retained through life. Arriving in England, he became Secretary to Mr. Monroe, then minister at London. An anecdote is told of his delighting Monroe by the exhibition of a knowledge of the modern Greek, when, in the company of the English scholars at Cambridge, some philological question arose relating to the present dialect, with which they were unacquainted.

On his return to America in 1807, he engaged in the practice of the law, and devoted a portion of his time to literary pursuits. He became associated with Joseph Dennie in the editorship of the *Portfolio* in 1811, and wrote much for it at different times. His papers on the fine arts, biographical sketches, and critical essays were written with great force and elegance, and exhibit a discriminating taste. He also penned various literary trifles, and wrote occasional verses, with the taste of the scholar and humorist.

When Lewis and Clark had returned from their explorations, their journals and memoranda were placed in the hands of Mr. Biddle, who prepared from them, and the oral relation of Clark, the narrative of the expedition, and induced Mr. Jefferson to pen the preliminary memoir of Lewis. It was simply conducted through the press by Paul Allen, to whom the stipulated compensation was liberally transferred, when the political engagements of Mr. Biddle withdrew him from further attention to the work.

He was in the State Legislature in 1810, advocating a system of popular education with views in advance of his times. It was not until 1836 that the ideas broached by him were fully carried out by legislative enactment. When the question of the renewal of the charter of the old United States Bank was discussed in the session of 1811, he advocated the measure in a speech, which was widely circulated at the time, and gained the distinguished approval of Chief Justice Marshall.

During the war with England, he was elected to the State Senate, and gave a zealous and powerful support to the measures of the national administration for carrying on the contest. He and all of his brothers were now engaged in the service of the country—in the public councils, the navy, the army, and the militia; of whom Commodore James Biddle, Major Thomas Biddle, and Major John Biddle gained particular military reputation. The youngest of the brothers, Richard Biddle, during the war a volunteer at Camp Dupont, afterwards settled at Pittsburg, and was for many years an acknowledged leader of the bar in that city. He also represented that district in Congress, with great ability. He found leisure for some important contributions to literature; his memoir of Sebastian Cabot has been justly characterized by an eminent critic as “one of the finest monuments of American research.”

After the capture of Washington, when an invasion of Pennsylvania was expected, Nicholas Biddle, in the Senate, initiated the most vigorous measures for the defence of the State.

Towards the close of the war, he replied to the address of the Hartford Convention, by an elaborate report, which was adopted in the Pennsylvania Legislature; a state paper which attracted universal attention, and added greatly to the reputation of its author. In the successive elections of 1818 and 1820, he received

a large vote for Congress as the nominee of the Democratic party, but was defeated by the Federal candidates.

In 1819 he became a Government Director of the Bank of the United States, on the nomination of President Monroe, who, about the same time, assigned to him, under a resolution of Congress, the work of collecting the laws and regulations of foreign countries relative to commerce, moneys, weights, and measures. These he arranged in an octavo volume, entitled "The Commercial Digest."

In 1823, on the retirement of Mr. Langdon Cheves, Mr. Biddle was elected to the Presidency of the Bank, and to the conduct of its affairs he thenceforth devoted all his energies. For many years the institution was entirely disconnected from politics, and furnished to the whole country equal exchanges and a sound and uniform currency, everywhere receivable, and immediately convertible into specie. Beside the parent bank at Philadelphia, twenty-five of its branches were established throughout the Union, and its control was everywhere felt by the State banks. Whatever political objections may be urged against the existence of a national bank, the eminent financial services which it rendered under Mr. Biddle's administration cannot be denied, and that the loss of these services has not since been adequately supplied, seems to be amply proved by the subsequent history of the American banking system. The following view of the subject was taken by the Hon. Horace Binney, in a debate in the House of Representatives in the year 1834: "The Bank of the United States has performed her great offices to this people by the concurrence of two peculiarities which belong to her—her structure, and her employment in the collection of the public revenue. No State banks, by any combination, can effect the required exchanges to any considerable extent. No Bank of the United States, without the aid of the public revenue, can effect them to the extent which the necessities of trade require. The structure of the Bank of the United States contributed to this operation in a way which every one may comprehend. The whole circulation of the United States is employed in effecting the exchange of the crop and the merchandise of the country. It is employed in transporting the crops to market, and merchandise to the places of its consumption.

"Now, a national bank, with branches spread over the whole



Union, knows, from experience and her means of observation, where the amount of demand will rise and fall, and at what time these dealings will occur. She knows, beforehand, where she may with safety diminish her resources, and where she must enlarge them. Wherever her resources are placed for use, it is the same thing to the bank,—her profit is the same everywhere; and this ability to give them the position which the trade of the country requires, is sustained by, and in a great degree dependent upon, her employment as the depository of the public revenue. In this character the bank receives the revenue, and holds it until the time of disbursement; and the knowledge which her accomplished President and the Board of Directors obtain through their relations to the Treasury, and by intimate acquaintance with the fiscal operations of the department, enables them to reconcile all the demands of the Treasury, with all the demands of trade; at the same time they preserve the whole currency of the country in that due proportion to demand which makes it, and which alone makes it sound and invariable. . . . Sir, the project of the Secretary of the Treasury surprises me,—it is the clearly avowed design to bring, a second time, upon this land the curse of an *unregulated, uncontrolled State bank paper currency*. . . . I should regard that man as one of the greatest benefactors of his country, who would devise, for the use of this people, some control over the paper currency of the State banks, and relieve us from the perpetual recurrence of constitutional doubts and party contention to which the career of a Bank of the United States seems necessarily exposed. Control of some kind is essential,—it is indispensable; there can be no property, or what is the same thing, no security or uniformity to its value, without it.”

President Jackson, at the commencement of his term of office, declared his hostility to a renewal of the charter of the United States Bank. In his first message, in 1829, he called the attention of Congress to the subject, declaring “that it could not too soon be presented to their deliberation.” It was again brought forward in his subsequent messages of 1830 and 1831. Our space will not allow us to enter into the details of the political contest which ensued. Mr. Biddle was, by his official position, placed in antagonism with his former political associates. In 1832, a bill for the



re-charter of the Bank passed both houses of Congress, but was vetoed by the President. Notwithstanding the hostility of the Government, and of the dominant political party, the Bank maintained its credit throughout the commercial world to the last moment of its existence. The charter expired, by its limitation, on the 3d March, 1836; and here ends the history of the last "Bank of the United States." Its name, however, was afterwards borne, with very different fortunes, by another institution. The stockholders of the late Bank received from the Legislature of Pennsylvania a State charter, by an act entitled "An Act to repeal the State tax, &c., and to charter a State bank, *to be called the United States Bank.*" There was, at this time, no man living who enjoyed a higher reputation as a financier than Nicholas Biddle. He was urgently solicited to accept the Presidency of the new bank. He assented, and continued at its head until March, 1839, when he resigned and retired to a country-seat on the River Delaware, called "Andalusia," which his wife had inherited from her father. At the time of his resignation, the stock of the bank was selling at one hundred and sixteen dollars a share, with other indications of soundness and prosperity. Two years afterwards, however, it stopped payment, assigned its assets, and was declared to be insolvent. Whether the failure was attributable to causes incident to the financial condition of the whole country, and the anomalous position of the State bank; or to measures pursued subsequent to, or during the administration of Mr. Biddle, were questions vehemently discussed at the time, and which cannot, now, be reviewed within the limits of this sketch.

The following succinct statement is from a biography of Mr. Biddle, by an eminent citizen of Pennsylvania, published in the last edition (1854) of the "National Portrait Gallery:"—

"The 'State bank,' called the 'United States Bank,' began and ended its career in a period of general expansion, over-trading, and over-banking. When the destruction of the Bank of the United States was decreed, it was the system of State banks,—not a specie currency,—that was put forward as the efficient substitute. To the State banks the public treasure was confided, and they were made the subjects of continued favor and laudation from the President in his messages, the Secretary of the Treasury in his reports, and the

party presses that echoed the sentiments of the party leaders. The 'Globe,' the official organ at Washington, teemed with appeals to the State Legislatures to create more banks, and any tardiness in compliance was charged,—as everything, almost, was charged in those days,—to the influence of 'Biddle and the United States Bank.' 'The State banks,' said General Jackson, 'are found fully adequate to the performance of all services required of the Bank of the United States, quite as promptly, and with the same cheapness.' 'By the use of the State banks,' he repeats, in a subsequent message, 'it is ascertained that the moneys of the United States can be collected and disbursed without loss or inconvenience, and that all the wants of the community in relation to exchange and currency, are supplied as well as they have ever been before.'

"Under such vigorous stimulus the number of banks was more than doubled; the amount of what was termed 'banking capital' more than trebled; the notes of banks in circulation rose from 61,000,000 to 185,000,000 of dollars; loans and discounts were increased proportionally. The restraining influence once exercised by the Bank of the United States was scoffed at as an odious and obsolete oppression; and President Jackson, in an annual message, congratulated the State banks on the extinction of their former 'enemy.' State governments, too, caught the general contagion, and issued bonds, contracted debts, and entered upon vast schemes of lavish expenditure. In vain were warning voices raised. Daniel Webster declared in the Senate, 'We are in danger of being overwhelmed with irredeemable paper, mere paper, not representing gold and silver; no, representing nothing but broken promises, bad faith, bankrupt corporations, cheated creditors, and a ruined people.' Henry Clay predicted that, 'There being no longer any sentinel at the head of our banking establishment to warn them by its information and operation of approaching danger, the local institutions, already multiplied to an alarming extent, and almost daily multiplying, in seasons of prosperity will make free and unrestrained emissions. . . . Inordinate speculation will ensue, debts will be freely contracted, and the explosion of the whole banking system will be the ultimate effect.' We recur now to these events not in a captious spirit of censure, but in justice to one upon whom it was afterwards sought to charge the conse-

quences of a system which he always combated, against which he openly protested—the very opposite of that established and perfected by his efforts, under which the country so long enjoyed a sound and uniform currency, based upon and always convertible into gold and silver. In the perilous condition of things to which we have adverted, the United States Bank of Pennsylvania had even more danger to encounter than other State institutions. Its unwieldy capital was forced to seek investment in every part of the country, in stocks, loans, bonds, and like securities, which, when the crash came, went down, and carried the bank down with them. Whether its fate could have been averted by Mr. Biddle, if he had continued in the direction of its affairs, we do not undertake to decide. He had never been found unequal to any crisis; and his tact, and skill, and fertility in resources might have warded off some of the blows that proved most fatal. That his efforts could have availed in the later, as they had in the former trials of the bank, can neither be certainly affirmed or denied. Speculation upon what might have happened, if events had been other than they were, is mostly very fruitless.”

After Mr. Biddle's retirement from the bank, he delivered two addresses before the Agricultural Society of Philadelphia County, of which he was the President, and discussed some topics of public interest through the press; he earnestly advocated the resumption of payment of the State interest, and the admission of Texas to the Union; but his health was broken, and he died on the 27th of February, 1844, of a disease of the heart, aged fifty-eight years. He had married, in 1811, the daughter of John Craig, one of the old merchants of Philadelphia, eminent for wealth, integrity, and public spirit; this lady, whose virtues insured the happiness of his domestic life, survived him for some years. His character was marked by great energy and resolution. Mr. C. J. Ingersoll, a political opponent on the bank question, in his sketch of the late war, says: “Nicholas Biddle was as iron-nerved as his great antagonist, Andrew Jackson, loved his country not less, and money as little.” His manner was peculiarly attractive; it was not a display of artificial graces, but the natural expression of a genial nature and cultivated mind, and it had a powerful influence over those with whom he was associated. In youth, the beauty of his person

was remarkable, and time dealt gently with it; he was fond of exercise on foot and on horseback, and though hospitable, his personal habits were simple and abstemious. He was a leading member of many societies and public institutions for useful and benevolent purposes, and his private charities and benefactions were as liberal as they were unostentatious. He was an ardent advocate of the improvement of his native State, and aided in the prosecution of the most important public enterprises. The Hon. Wm. F. Packer (now the Governor of Pennsylvania), in a speech in the State Senate, advocating the connection of Philadelphia with the Lakes, said: "This, sir, was the favorite project of Nicholas Biddle, of your city; and whatever may be said of him as a politician or a financier, all agree that on questions of internal improvement and commerce, he was one of the most sagacious and far-seeing statesmen in this Union. His fault was, if fault it be, that he was twenty years in advance of the age in which he lived. Sir, his towering mind enabled him afar off to

— 'See the tops of distant thoughts,  
Which men of common stature never saw.'

Had he lived and maintained the strong hold which he once had on the affections of Philadelphia, that city would long since have been placed, in relation to the trade I have attempted to describe, where New York and Boston now are."

His taste was formed upon the classic models with which his studies and travels had rendered him familiar; to it the city owes two of the finest specimens of Grecian architecture—the United States Custom-House (formerly the United States Bank), and the Girard College—the plans for which were adopted at his instance. He delivered many speeches and addresses, and his style was remarkable for purity, terseness, and vigor. We cannot afford room for any of his prose compositions, but the following playful verses are a specimen of his talents in their lighter vein. Soon after he had entered upon the duties of the presidency of the bank, the request of a lady for a poetical contribution was thus *refused*. It may be taken as his farewell to the Muses:—



## " TO MISS ———.

"Time was when to see thee, fair lady, alone,  
 Would wake into rapture this bosom of stone;  
 But now thy command, all unchanged as thou art,  
 Cannot kindle the fancy, nor soften the heart.  
 So unequal our fates, since that scythe-bearing Time,  
 Appeased by thy beauty, provoked by my rhyme,  
 Though he folded his wings, and muffled his tread,  
 And passed without touching a hair of thy head,  
 As he came by my farm, cut me down to a Cit,  
 And dispersed my small stock of Merinos and wit.  
 If you deem this a pretext made up for my wife,  
 Pray, look at my dwelling, and think of my life.  
 Not a mummy wrapped up, in his pyramid hall,  
 Nor the toad that lived on for whole years in a wall,  
 Nor the famed iron-mask, breathed more dulness and gloom  
 Than I,—when inclosed in my vast marble tomb;  
 'Midst vaults of damp stone, and chests of cold iron,  
 That would quell all the fancy of Shakspeare or Byron.  
 Alas! had the ancients, who so much surpass us,  
 In their pure, golden age, fixed a bank on Parnassus,  
 What a model of wisdom and pleasure to follow:  
 Only think now, to sign one's bank notes like Apollo!  
 But that rake of Olympus,—too happy to rove,—  
 Would have scorned to make money and cease to make love;  
 And the Muses,—whose sex condescends to protectors,  
 Have a true female scorn of all sorts of *directors*.  
 'Tis fiercely avenged though, for banks, where they know it,  
 Have a horror that leads them to shun every poet;  
 And since the first rhyme, the Muses' fond votary  
 If ever he's trusted, soon goes to the notary.  
 Even I, sainted ladies! who fixed on my farm,  
 Though you never would visit me, wished you no harm,  
 Even I would exchange, shall I dare to confess t' ye all,  
 For one sheet of bank-notes, the whole *quire* celestial.  
 I prefer my last schedule of number one debtors  
 To the writings of all the republic of letters,  
 My 'much esteemed favors from Paris,' to those  
 Which brought on poor Helen an Iliad of woes:  
 Nay, two lines of bad prose, with a good name upon it,  
 To the tenderest fourteen ever squeezed in a sonnet.  
 Why, I would not accept,—not for Hebe's account,  
 The very best draft on Helicon's fount;  
 Nor give,—this it grieves me to say to their faces,—  
 More than three days of grace to all the Three Graces.  
 Then the 'music of spheres,' can it thrill through the soul,  
 Like kegs of new dollars, as inward they roll;  
 And Cecilia herself, though her lyre was divine,  
 Never gave to the world notes superior to mine.



But we've parted in peace now, I never shall quarrel  
 If my branches, like Daphne's, won't sprout into laurel;  
 And renouncing illusions, at last find content,  
 In that simplest, sublimest of truths,—six per cent.;  
 While the Bank is my goddess, its desks are my altars,  
 And all my 'fine frenzy' is spent on defaulters.  
 So unless, like the sculptor of old, in this stone  
 You can breathe inspiration as pure as your own,  
 Be it mine, while no scribbling your tablet defaces,  
 To keep out of your books, but keep in your good graces."

## COMMODORE NICHOLAS BIDDLE.

NICHOLAS BIDDLE, one of the patriots whose lives were sacrificed in the cause of American Independence, was born in Philadelphia, on the 10th September, 1750. (See *Life of Nicholas Biddle*, President of the U. S. Bank.)

His bold and adventurous spirit led him to adopt a sailor's life, at the age of fourteen, in spite of the dissuasion of his friends. It was not the mere boyish inclination, which is so often extinguished as soon as it is indulged, but a strong, abiding passion, prompted by his great natural qualifications for that sphere of action. While yet very young he made several voyages, and, through assiduous attention, joined to a peculiar aptitude, he soon became a thorough, practical seaman. In 1765, he was cast away upon an uninhabited island, near the shoal known to mariners as the Northern Triangles. He remained there with a few companions for two months, before relief reached them, suffering extreme privation and hardship.

In the year 1770, when a war was expected between Great Britain and Spain, in consequence of the dispute about the Falkland Islands, young Biddle, then twenty years of age, went to London, where, through the influence of friends, he received an appointment as midshipman. The dispute with Spain being peacefully adjusted, and Arctic exploration presenting then, as now, attractions to enterprising spirits, he entered, as a volunteer, on board the *Carcass*, Captain Phipps, in an expedition in search of the Northwest Passage. It is worthy of remark, that a like spirit had induced another youth to join the expedition in the same manner: this shipmate was after-

wards England's greatest naval hero,—Horatio Nelson. The vessels penetrated as far as the latitude of eighty-one degrees and thirty-nine minutes, and encountered all the perils incident to Arctic navigation. Biddle kept a journal of the voyage, which was afterwards lost with him. The commencement of the Revolution gave a new direction to his career. Quitting the British navy, he hastened home, and enlisted with ardor in the cause of his country. His first appointment was to the command of the Camden galley, for the defence of the Delaware; from which he was soon transferred to the command of the brig Andrew Doria, of fourteen guns, and took part in the expedition against New Providence. Before leaving the Delaware, a characteristic incident occurred. Some deserters from his ship were arrested, and lodged in prison, at Lewistown. An officer was sent on shore for them, but he returned with information that they, with other prisoners, had got possession of the jail, and some fire-arms, and swore that they would not be taken. A guard of militia surrounded the building, but were afraid to break open the door, the prisoners threatening to shoot the first who should enter. Captain Biddle, accompanied by a midshipman, immediately went to the prison, and calling to one of his deserters, whose name was Green, ordered him to unbar the door; he replied that he would not, and that if any one attempted to enter, he would shoot him. Biddle then caused the door to be forced, and entering alone, with a pistol in each hand, he said to Green, who stood prepared to fire: "Now, Green, if you do not take good aim you are a dead man." Daunted by the bearing of their officer, the resolution of the mutineers failed, and the militia coming in secured them. They afterwards declared that it was Captain Biddle's look and manner that had awed them, for that they were determined to kill him when he came into the room.

About to put to sea, on this cruise, he wrote from the Capes to his brother, Judge Biddle: "I know not what may be our fate; be it, however, what it may, I will never cause a blush in the cheeks of my friends or countrymen." By his activity, he inflicted much injury on the commerce of the enemy, and intercepted a number of their transports, bound for the seat of war; among others, two vessels containing four hundred of the Highland troops of the British army. Such were his vigor and success in taking prizes,

that, when he arrived in the Delaware, he had but five of his original crew left with him,—the rest having been put on board captured vessels, and their places supplied by men who had entered from the prizes. This made so great a demand upon his personal vigilance, that for many days before he got into port, he had not left the deck of his ship.

One of his officers, Lieutenant Josiah, while in charge of a prize, was taken by the British, and subjected to very rigorous treatment. Captain Biddle wrote an indignant letter to Admiral Howe, saying: "If, sir, you see fit to maltreat a noble and patriotic young officer, whom the fate of war has placed in your possession, rest assured the law of retaliation will be resorted to by me." By the proceedings of Congress on the 7th of August, 1776, it appears "that a letter from Captain Biddle to the Marine Committee was laid before Congress and read: whereupon, Resolved, that General Washington be directed to propose an exchange of Lieutenant Josiah for a lieutenant of the navy of Great Britain; that the General remonstrate to Lord Howe on the cruel treatment Lieutenant Josiah has met with, of which the Congress have received undoubted information." In consequence of these proceedings, the exchange was effected.

Towards the end of the year 1776, Biddle was appointed to the command of a frigate, lately built at Philadelphia, the Randolph, of thirty-two guns. He sailed from Philadelphia in February, 1777. Many of the prisoners in the vessels captured by Biddle had volunteered to serve under him, and, being short of hands, he had shipped a considerable number of them. They had formed, it afterwards appeared, a plot for taking possession of the ship, and soon after leaving port they broke out into open mutiny. Biddle, who was as remarkable for physical strength as for courage, seized the ring-leaders with his own hands, and with the aid of his officers and the well-affected portion of his crew, completely subdued the mutineers. After refitting at Charleston, he made a successful cruise, capturing a number of vessels, among them the True Briton, of twenty guns. Returning to Charleston, the authorities of South Carolina added to his command four small vessels of war of that State, one of them, the Moultrie, of eighteen guns. With this squadron he proceeded upon a cruise to the West Indies. Two days before the engage-

ment now to be related, Captain Blake, a brave officer, who commanded a detachment of the second South Carolina Regiment, serving as marines on board the Moultrie, and to whom we are indebted (says Rogers, in his American Biography) for several of the ensuing particulars, dined on board the Randolph. At dinner, Captain Biddle said: "We have been cruising here for some time, and have spoken a number of vessels, who will no doubt give information of us. As to anything that carries her guns upon one deck, I think myself a match for her."

On the afternoon of the 7th of March, 1777, they descried, indistinctly, a ship in the distance, which neared them at about seven o'clock in the evening. The Randolph, being to windward, hove to, as did the Moultrie, which was about a hundred and fifty yards astern. The British ship fired a shot, and hailed; she was now seen to be a two-decker, and proved to be a ship of the line, the Yarmouth, of sixty-four guns. As she ranged up alongside, on the weather quarter, her hail was answered with, "This is the Randolph," and a full broadside. A desperate conflict ensued. The position of the Moultrie was such that when she attempted to open her fire upon the enemy, it unfortunately took effect upon the Randolph. Biddle's firing was very rapid; his ship seemed to the eye-witnesses to be in a continual blaze, giving three broadsides for the enemy's one. The action had lasted twenty minutes, when the Randolph blew up with a terrible explosion. The two ships were so near at the time that many fragments struck the Yarmouth, and the American ensign was blown in upon her forecastle. Of three hundred and fifteen men on board the Randolph, all perished save four sailors, who were picked up from a piece of the wreck. These related that, at the beginning of the action, Biddle was shot through the thigh, and it was thought that he was killed. But he called out that he was little hurt, and had a chair placed on the quarter deck, and continued to direct the fight till the moment of the explosion. The official account of Captain Vincent, of the Yarmouth, acknowledged a loss of five killed and twelve wounded, and his ship was so much damaged that the Moultrie, and the other small vessels which had before made sail, escaped. Such was the great disparity of force and size in this action, that Cooper, in his Naval History, declares that "Victory was almost hopeless, even



had all Biddle's vessels behaved equally well with his own ship." We cannot but admire his desperate valor, in preferring the chances of such a conflict to submission, even to a force so superior to his own that a surrender would have entailed no disgrace.

Thus prematurely ended, at the age of twenty-seven, the brief career of this gallant officer. Fenimore Cooper says of him: "Ardent, ambitious, fearless, intelligent, and persevering, he had all the qualities of a great naval captain; and though possessing some local family influence, perhaps, he rose to the station he filled, at so early an age, by personal merit. . . . His loss was greatly regretted, in the midst of the excitement and vicissitudes of a revolution, and can scarcely be appreciated by those who do not understand the influence that such a character can produce on a small and infant service."\*

The virtues of his private character were no less worthy of admiration. He was a man of strict and temperate habits, upright and liberal in all his dealings, and gentle and affectionate in the social circle. A sincere Christian, his religious impressions had a direct influence upon his conduct, which was governed by a profound and constant sense of duty.

At the termination of his cruise, he was to have married a lady of Charleston, to whom he had been for some time engaged. Among the few memorials that remain of him, is his last will, which is on record, in Charleston, South Carolina:—

"I, Nicholas Biddle, do hereby declare this to be my last will and testament; that is to say, I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth Elliott Baker, daughter of Richard Bohun Baker, of the State of South Carolina, Esquire, the sum of twenty-five thousand pounds, lawful currency of the said State; and the remainder of my estate, whether real or personal, I do bequeath unto my mother, Mary Biddle, of the State of Pennsylvania. But in case of her dying without a will, I desire that such sums of money or property, of what kind soever, as she may have received, or have been entitled to receive, be equally divided between my brothers James and Edward, and my sisters Lydia McFunn and Mary Biddle, of the State of Pennsylvania. And I do hereby appoint Thomas Farr and Joshua Ward, of the State of South Carolina, Esquires, to be my true and lawful executors.

\* Cooper's Naval History, vol. i, 147.



“In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 12th day of January, 1776.

“NICHOLAS BIDDLE. [SEAL.]

“Signed and sealed in presence of,” &c.

### COMMODORE JAMES BIDDLE.

JAMES BIDDLE, a son of Charles Biddle, of Philadelphia (see Life of Nicholas Biddle), was born on the 18th of February, 1783. He had made considerable progress in his studies, and acquired a taste for literature which he retained through life, when he left the University of Pennsylvania, to enter the navy. He and his brother Edward sailed as midshipmen in the *President*, under Commodore Truxtun, in September, 1800, for the West Indies. Edward Biddle, a youth of great promise, died during the voyage. This event did not, however, abate the inclination for the sea of his brother James. On the reduction of the navy, in 1801, he was retained in the service. Early in 1802, he sailed in the *Constellation*, under Commodore Murray, for the Mediterranean, on a cruise against the Tripolitans. In 1803, he was transferred to the *Philadelphia*, Captain Bainbridge. On the 31st October of that year, the ship struck upon a rock, off the coast of Tripoli. After every effort to get her afloat had failed, and all resistance to the enemy's gunboats had proved unavailing, Captain Bainbridge surrendered his ship, and, with his officers and crew, was subjected to a close and rigorous confinement. The known barbarity of the Moors, in their treatment of Christian captives, excited much apprehension for the fate of the prisoners. The family of young Biddle proposed, through Sir Alexander Ball, the governor of Malta, to effect his liberation by the payment of a ransom; but he positively refused to take advantage of an arrangement by which he alone would be benefited, and declared his resolution to share the lot of his comrades. Their release was at last obtained through negotiation, by the Government of the United States, after an imprisonment of twenty months. From this time he was constantly

in active service; and at the commencement of the war with Great Britain, he sailed from Philadelphia, in the capacity of first lieutenant of the sloop of war *Wasp*, Captain Jacob Jones. On the 18th October, 1812, after receiving some damage from a heavy gale, the *Wasp* fell in with six British merchantmen, two of which mounted sixteen guns each, under convoy of the sloop of war *Frolic*, Captain Whyngates. Captain Jones immediately determined to attack them. The merchantmen sailed away, while the *Frolic* waited for the *Wasp*, which bore down upon her on the larboard side. The *Wasp* commenced the action at about sixty yards distance, maintaining the weathergage. The English fired with more rapidity, the Americans with more precision and effect. Finally, Captain Jones ran his ship athwart the enemy's bow, so that the *Frolic*'s jib-boom came in between his main and mizzen rigging, and two of his guns entered the bow-ports of the *Frolic*, and swept the whole length of her deck. After one broadside delivered in this position, the conquest was completed by boarding. Lieutenant Biddle led the boarders; he and a seaman named Jack Lang were the first to gain a footing upon the deck of the enemy. The conflict lasted just forty-three minutes. In this action, there was almost a perfect equality of force, the *Frolic*'s armament slightly exceeding that of the *Wasp*. It is cited by Sir Howard Douglass, in his treatise on gunnery,—one of the highest British authorities,—as a remarkable instance of American superiority in that art; an acknowledgment that is in strong contrast with the elaborate misrepresentations by which some English cotemporary writers endeavored to palliate the reverses of their navy. One of the most dishonest of the works composed with that object, and dignified with the name of History, it is, perhaps, worth mentioning, was written by William James, who for some time exercised the calling of “veterinary surgeon” in the city of Philadelphia; but the mortality among his equine patients exposing him to imputations of malpractice, he returned to his native land, and devoted his skill to the studied depreciation of the exploits of American commanders. There is an exposure of some of his errors and misrepresentations in two articles, from the pen of Fenimore Cooper, in the *Democratic Review*, vol. x, A. D. 1842; and the *Edinburgh Review* (vol. lxxi, A. D. 1840) condemns his “bitter and perse-

vering antipathy to our transatlantic relations. . . . Almost every original remark made upon them by the author bears traces of the unworthy feeling we have mentioned."

Soon after the action between the Wasp and the Frolic, a British seventy-four, the Poictiers, fell in with them, and Captain Jones was obliged to surrender his ship, with her recent prize, and they were taken into Bermuda. The officers, however, were soon liberated by exchange. Lieutenant Biddle acquired great distinction by his conduct in this action. Among other honors conferred on him by his fellow-citizens and public bodies, were a sword from his native State, a medal from Congress, votes of thanks, &c. He was also immediately promoted to the rank of master-commandant, and placed in charge of a flotilla of gunboats, for the protection of the river Delaware, and soon after transferred to the command of the Hornet sloop of war, which, with the frigates United States and Macedonian, formed a squadron, under Commodore Decatur. Soon after leaving New York, they were compelled, by the presence of a superior British force, to put into the harbor of New London, Connecticut, where they were closely blockaded. During this period of inaction, what was considered as an overture from the British officers, led to a negotiation for a "challenge fight." Commodore Decatur sent Captain Biddle to Sir Thomas Hardy, the British commodore, to propose that the two American frigates should meet two of his ships of the same class. It was found impossible, however, to obtain the assent of Sir Thomas Hardy to this proposal. Captain Biddle did, however, succeed in adjusting the terms for a meeting between his own sloop of war, the Hornet, and the sloop of war Loup Cervier. These terms, however, did not receive the unqualified approval of Commodore Decatur, because they admitted, for the Loup Cervier, the advantage of a picked crew from the other ships of the British squadron. Captain Biddle instantly forwarded another proposal, so varied as to obviate the objections of his superior officer; but, without returning any reply, the captain of the Loup Cervier put to sea, and did not come back again to that station. Such maritime duels are not, however, to be commended. The aim in public warfare should be to use advantages, not to neutralize them, by voluntary stipulations. There must be incident, too, to such encounters an unnecessary and desperate pro-

traction, leading to a useless waste of life, which does not attend ordinary conflicts. The usual obligations of duty are thought to be transcended, as appears from the fact that Captain Biddle, before closing the negotiation on his own behalf, had deemed it proper to obtain the assent of his crew; avowing that he considered the national honor to be so peculiarly involved in the result of such a meeting, that in no possible extremity should his ship be surrendered. This determination is characteristic not only of the individual, but also of the transaction in which he was then engaged.

There being no prospect of an abandonment of the blockade, and an escape from it being deemed impracticable, it was ordered by the United States Government that the frigates should be hauled up the river and dismantled; the charge of them in this condition being assigned to Captain Biddle, in the *Hornet*. To one of his enterprising character, nothing could be more irksome than the sphere of inactivity to which he had now been confined for nearly seventeen months. He feelingly compared it to his long imprisonment in Tripoli; and urgently and constantly solicited permission to attempt a passage through the blockading squadron, expressing the most sanguine expectation of success. At length, the permission was yielded to his importunity. He instantly effected his purpose; passing out unperceived through the British squadron, on the night of the 18th November, 1814.

Being then ordered to join the East India squadron, he arrived the first at the place of rendezvous, the island of Tristan D'Acunha, on the 23d March, 1815. When about to cast anchor, a sail was descried to the southward. Captain Biddle immediately stood off from the land, placed himself upon the course of the other vessel, and waited for her. The stranger, a British ship of war, manœuvred very cautiously, and reserved her fire till within musket-shot distance. The conflict was "short, sharp, and decisive." Again it was the fortune of Biddle to demonstrate the superiority of American gunnery. It was subsequently narrated, by the British first lieutenant, that his captain, Dickinson, after about fifteen minutes' firing, said to him, "This fellow hits us every time; we can't stand his fire; we must run him aboard." The attempt to board was, however, ineffectual. The *Hornet's* fire still told fearfully upon her antagonist, and one of the British officers called out



that they surrendered. Captain Biddle ceased his firing, and, standing on the taffrail, asked, "Have you surrendered?" At this moment two of the English marines fired at him from about twelve yards' distance. A ball passed through his neck, and struck him down from the taffrail, but he refused to go below, and gave the order to wear the ship round for another broadside, when a general cry of surrender rose from the British ship, and she struck her colors. She was the *Penguin*, a ship of the *Hornet's* class, size, and metal; and she had been carefully fitted out to cruise for the *Young Wasp*, a vessel somewhat heavier than the *Hornet*. Only superior discipline and skill could account for the fact that, in an action of twenty-two minutes, the *Penguin's* mainmast was crippled, her foremast and bowsprit shot away, and her hull so riddled that it was not thought advisable to send her to the United States, and she was therefore scuttled. On the other hand, the *Hornet's* principal damage was in the rigging, and, in a few hours, she was again fit for service. The British historian, Sir Archibald Alison, thus mentions the engagement: "On the 23d of March, long after peace had been signed, the *Hornet* met the *Penguin*, and a furious conflict ensued, both commanders being ignorant of the termination of hostilities. Both vessels were of equal size and weight of metal, but the American had the advantage in the number and composition of her crew; and, after a desperate conflict, in the course of which the brave Captain Dickinson was slain in the very act of attempting to board, the British vessel surrendered, having lost a third of her crew, killed and wounded."\*

It was a curious coincidence that, as after the capture of the *Frolic*, Biddle soon fell in with a British seventy-four, the *Cornwallis*, which immediately gave chase to the *Hornet*. The pursuit was continued for three days. Though Captain Biddle was still much debilitated by his wound, and his first lieutenant (Conner) had been disabled in the late action, every expedient that nautical skill could suggest was vigorously used to increase the *Hornet's* speed; finally the anchors, boats, shot, guns, and every other heavy article were thrown overboard. The gigantic pursuer several times got near enough to open fire, but did not succeed in overtaking the *Hornet*. Fenimore Cooper says, in his *Naval History*, "Cap-

\* Alison's *History of Europe*, chap. lxxvi.



tain Biddle gained nearly as much reputation for the steadiness and skill with which he saved his ship on this occasion as for the fine manner in which he had fought her a few weeks earlier. In the promptitude with which he had continued his cruise, after capturing a vessel of equal force, the nation traced the spirit of the elder officer of the same name and family, who had rendered himself so conspicuous in the Revolution."

Captain Biddle put into St. Salvador on the 9th of June, 1815, and there heard that peace had been made with Great Britain.

On his return to the United States, he was promoted to the rank of Post Captain, and received the honors due to his gallantry from Congress, his native State, and his fellow-citizens.

After the termination of the war he was constantly employed in the ordinary routine of naval duty, which, though arduous and important, presents few details of interest to the general reader. He, at three different periods, held commands upon the coast of South America, and displayed great ability and conduct in the complex relations which then existed between the United States and Spain and her revolted colonies. One incident, which occurred at Valparaiso, excited at the time considerable attention. The government of the United States had not yet recognized the independence of Chili, and therefore the authorities omitted to notice the offer of Captain Biddle to exchange the usual salutes on his arrival at Valparaiso in the Ontario. The Chilian navy was under the command of Lord Cochrane, who had been dismissed from the British service after being convicted of fraud in a conspiracy to affect the public funds. Captain Biddle was about weighing anchor, to proceed on his voyage, when Lord Cochrane desired him to submit to a detention in port until after the sailing of a secret expedition. For reasons which he deemed sufficient, in view of the late omission to salute his flag, Captain Biddle declined to accede to this request. Immediately two ships of the Chilian navy slipped their cables, and took up a position to command the mouth of the harbor. By all on board of the Ontario it was understood as a menace. Biddle instantly cleared for action, and bore down upon the ships placed in his way. They suffered him to pass between them, and proceed to sea without molestation.

Among special services rendered by him, we may enumerate that,

in 1817, he took possession of Oregon Territory ; in 1826, he signed a commercial treaty with Turkey ; from 1838 to 1842, he held the post of Governor of the Naval Asylum, at Philadelphia ; in 1845, while in command of a squadron in the East Indies, he exchanged the ratifications of the first treaty with China, and acted as United States Commissioner to that country ; he also touched at Japan, and made an earnest effort to conciliate, by kindness and forbearance, its singular and exclusive people. From Japan he sailed to California, and took command of the United States naval force in the Pacific Ocean, then engaged in prosecuting the war against Mexico. Immediately on his arrival at this station, his nice appreciation of belligerent rights was exhibited, by the revocation of a general blockade of the west coast of Mexico, which had been declared by his predecessor, and the substitution of a blockade of special ports, maintained by the presence of a competent force. It is in conformity with this practice that a European congress has since abolished "paper blockades," and adopted the American principle upon this subject.

He reached home in the month of March, 1848, worn with the toils of long and faithful service, and, on the 1st of October following, died at Philadelphia, aged sixty-six years. He had never sought repose in exemption from duty, and, with unremitting zeal, his whole life was devoted to his country.

Commodore Biddle was a well-read scholar, thoroughly conversant with general literature, international and military law, the practice of courts-martial, and the usages of the naval service. No man was more exemplary in all the private relations of life. He never married, and the affection of his warm and generous nature was bestowed upon a large circle of relatives and friends. His manners were marked by scrupulous refinement and delicacy. He was slight in person, and it was by the force of an indomitable spirit that he surmounted hardships and difficulties. His temperament was quick and impulsive, but controlled by a strong sense of justice, and a careful regard for the rights of others. Rigid in all the essentials of discipline, he had none of the exacting spirit that vents itself in minute and harassing attention to insignificant details. His character commanded the respect, and won the affection of his officers and his crew. Few men have more completely fulfilled the duties



of their station in life; and he may be with truth cited as one of the best examples of the American naval officer.

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## MAJOR THOMAS BIDDLE.

THOMAS BIDDLE, a son of Charles Biddle (see *Life of Nicholas Biddle*), was born at Philadelphia, on the 21st November, 1790. At the commencement of the war with Great Britain, in 1812, he and his brother John Biddle (still living, at Detroit, Michigan) entered the army. In the report of a speech made at Philadelphia, in 1852, by Lieutenant-General Scott, we find this mention of them:—

“Across your river Schuylkill, in 1812, I had the honor to form a camp, when a regiment was prepared for the defence of the Canada frontier. That regiment was composed almost entirely of Pennsylvanians, and on the doings of that little band almost all my hopes in this life depended. There I had the honor to meet some of the finest young men the country ever produced. I may refer to the Biddles,—Thomas and John,—who came out of the war majors,—a distinction they were eminently deserving of, for their gallantry and excellent service. The father of these Biddles, I recollect, was a Revolutionary patriot, and the head of the Committee of Safety, in 1814, when Philadelphia was threatened with invasion, when your houses were threatened with destruction, and the United States Treasury was bankrupt. He was a noble man, and his memory I will ever cherish. . . . That Committee of Safety, when the United States Treasury refused to pay a dollar, went and borrowed funds, on their own credit, for the defence of your beautiful city.”\* In the 2d artillery,—the regiment thus alluded to by its former Colonel,—Thomas Biddle held the rank of Captain. His name first appeared,\*with distinction, in Colonel Pike’s report of an affair with the British and Indians, on the northern frontier. At the taking of Fort George, and at the action at Stony Creek, he was mentioned in the despatches of the commanding officers;

\* Public Ledger, October 21st, 1852.

and he was specially complimented in general orders, by Major General Brown, for gallantry displayed in rallying the picket guards, when surprised by the enemy, before the battle of Chippewa. He was also distinguished and twice wounded in the desperate action at Lundy's Lane. "Captain Biddle was wounded early in the action, but refused to quit the field," says the official report of General Brown. He was again wounded at the siege of Fort Erie, and was brevetted for services rendered in the defence of that post. The commanding officer, General Gaines, in a letter written at a later period, recurring to the events of the siege, says: "I witnessed the conduct of Major Thomas Biddle, then a captain of artillery, in the principal battle at Fort Erie, August 15th, 1814, as well as in the daily cannonade and bombardment which preceded and for some weeks followed that trying conflict, in which Biddle's battery, like that of Towson on the left, and that of our lamented Williams on the right, exhibited constant evidence of vigilant preparation and skilful action. He kept it brilliantly lighted up whenever the enemy's fire appeared, through the deep darkness in which they were enveloped, to mark the points of their position or their approach; and when the dawning light of day presented to my view their left and last lingering column, broken, but endeavoring to rally, I had the pleasure to find Major Biddle, with his field-pieces, pressing forward among the foremost of our troops, near the enemy, thereby contributing to hasten and confuse their retreat, and at the same time to render it more destructive to them. His conduct, as witnessed by me every day and night for more than three weeks in the cannonade and bombardment of Fort Erie, proved him to be an officer of great gallantry, vigilance, and merit; and I have no doubt that every intelligent officer, with whom he has served, will concur with me in the opinion, that the position of greatest danger, when known to be the post of honor and of greatest usefulness, was, in war, the position of Major Biddle's choice."

On the close of the war, he was retained upon the peace establishment, and for some time was in command of Fort Mifflin, on the Delaware. The hostilities with the Seminole Indians offering an opportunity for active service, he applied for orders to join the army of General Jackson, but did not receive them in time to take part in the principal operations, owing to circumstances which are



thus stated in a letter from him, dated Fort Scott, June 8, 1818. "I reached here some days since, after traversing a dangerous and disagreeable wilderness, in pursuit of the army, for eight days. I have arrived too late to participate in the campaign. General Jackson is a man of such astonishing promptitude and vigor, that he has accomplished in a few days what any other man under the canopy of heaven would have been months in performing. He is certainly the most singular character in existence, a man *sui generis*; there is no other like him. I find he has experienced some little difficulty at Pensacola. I should have shared in all the interesting events of the campaign, if I had had the usual voyage to Savannah; but instead of five days, I was twenty-one. I feel more mortified, as all the service performed was with artillery, and if I had been there, I should have ranked all the officers of that arm."

In the year 1820, he accepted an appointment as paymaster in the army, and was stationed at St. Louis, Mo. After some years of residence there, his character and abilities suggested to many his fitness for civil employments; and his personal influence, which was strong and extensive in the new State, was eagerly sought in the political contests of the day.

Thus he became involved in a violent political controversy, which resulted in a duel with the Hon. Spencer Pettis, a member of Congress from Missouri, in August, 1831. Biddle was the challenged party, and, on account of an imperfection in his sight, chose pistols, and a distance of *five feet*. Their weapons, in position, actually overlapped each other, and, at the first fire, both fell mortally wounded.\* Pettis died on the following day; Biddle survived one day longer. The duel was witnessed by hundreds of spectators. Soon after the event, there was published in the Illinois Magazine, edited by Judge Hall, who had been himself a distinguished soldier in the war of 1812, a biographical notice of Major Biddle, in which he is thus characterized: "He was a man who left strong impressions of attachment on the minds of those with whom he was familiar. To the world he was distant and reserved, rather shrinking from than seeking an intercourse with strangers. He never courted popular applause, but pursued the dictates of his own judgment with fearless independence. He had

\* Sabine on Duelling.

much of that freshness and originality of character and promptness of decision, which marks a man of strong intellect, who relies upon the resources of his own mind, and acts for himself. In his own house, he was liberal, frank, and hospitable; refined and delicate in his enjoyments; a devoted husband; kind and generous in his domestic relations. Of the unhappy controversy which led to the death of Major Biddle, we do not design to speak. In doing honor to him, we would offer no violence to the feelings or the memory of others. . . . It is enough to say, that he fell in a duel with Mr. Spencer Pettis, a member of Congress from Missouri, in a quarrel arising out of a violent political contest. It is but justice to Major Biddle's memory to remark, and we do so advisedly, that he did not aspire to the office which was held by his opponent, nor was he, in the first instance, actuated by any personal enmity to that gentleman.

"They fought on an island in the Mississippi, opposite St. Louis—a low slip of ground covered with cottonwood and willows—a spot already fatal but to too many! Owing to a defect in Major Biddle's vision, the distance was five feet. They met with the sternness and calmness of men prepared to die—both perfectly cool and self-possessed. Both fell mortally wounded at the first fire. Thus fell Major Thomas Biddle, in the forty-first year of his age, in full health, in the vigor of life, in the prime of his usefulness; thus fell Spencer Pettis, in the bloom of manhood. We offer no apology for the duellist. Condemning the practice, as we must, it is no palliation in our eyes that two men, both of whom were amiable in private life, and who both occupied high stations in the eye of the public, should have given it their sanction. It is the more to be regretted, the more decidedly to be repudiated, when we see its dreadful effects thus prominently exhibited, in the loss to society of two individuals who were honored by the confidence of the public, and beloved by their respective friends."\*

Major Biddle was married to the daughter of John Mullanphy, Esq., of St. Louis. One of the striking ornaments of that city is the splendid monument which she caused to be erected to the memory of the husband whose untimely loss she never ceased, through life, to deplore.

\* Illinois Monthly Magazine, September, 1831.

## COLONEL CLEMENT BIDDLE.

CLEMENT BIDDLE, a colonel in the Revolutionary army, was born in Philadelphia, May 10, 1740. Descended from one of the early Quaker settlers and proprietaries of West Jersey, he retained his connection with the Society of Friends until the commencement of the War of Independence.

In early life, he engaged in commercial pursuits, in his native city. Notwithstanding the discipline of the religious society in whose tenets he had been educated, he united, in 1764, in forming a military corps for the protection of a party of friendly Indians, who had sought refuge in Philadelphia from the fury of a lawless band, known as the Paxton Boys, who had recently massacred some unoffending Conestoga Indians, at Lancaster. These banditti, powerful in numbers, had advanced to within five or six miles of the city, threatening destruction to all who should oppose them, when the vigor of the military preparations checked their further progress. Scarcely had this local disturbance been quieted, when news was received of the resolution of the British House of Commons, to impose certain stamp duties on the colonies. The feeling engendered throughout the whole country by this step, was nowhere deeper than in Philadelphia; and the consummation of the resolve of the Commons, by the passage of the Stamp Act, induced, in that city, the celebrated non-importation resolutions of October 25, 1765; one of the most decided measures adopted during the early part of the struggle with Great Britain, for the preservation of the civil rights of the colonists. This agreement was subscribed by the principal merchants of the city; among them we find the names of Clement Biddle and his brother, Owen Biddle. The course subsequently pursued by the British Government destroying all hope of a peaceful adjustment, Clement Biddle embarked early and zealously in the defence of the liberties of America, and was greatly instrumental in forming the "Quaker" company of volunteers, raised in Philadelphia in 1775, of which he was elected an officer, before the corps joined the army. Congress having, in June, 1776, for the protection of the middle colonies, directed the

immediate establishment of a camp of ten thousand men, to be furnished by Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware, on the 8th July following, appointed Colonel Biddle the Deputy Quartermaster-General for those forces, as well as for the militia of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, ordered to assemble at Trenton. At the close of that year, Colonel Biddle took part in the battle of Trenton, and, with another officer, was selected by Washington to receive the swords of the Hessian officers. He was also engaged in the stoutly-contested victory at Princeton; the battle at and retreat from the Brandywine; the attack upon the British forces at Germantown; and during the winter of 1777-8 shared the privations of the American army at the memorable cantonment at Valley Forge. There, as Commissary-General under Greene, he rendered important services in several critical junctures, when the disbanding of the army, from want of the necessaries of life, seemed almost inevitable. Many letters from General Washington, written at this period, and now in the possession of Colonel Biddle's family, attest his activity in the commissariat department, the urgency of the service he was engaged in, and the confidence reposed in him by the father of his country. He was again in action at the battle of Monmouth.

After the war of the Revolution, he renewed, for a short time, his connection with military life, by serving as Quartermaster-General of Pennsylvania in the expedition, under Washington, to suppress the "Whiskey Insurrection."

Colonel Biddle labored earnestly in the early political movements of the patriot party of his State, advocating effectively the revolutionary State Constitution of 1776, in the framing of which his brother, Owen Biddle, shared, as a member of the Convention. After the organization of the Federal Government, under the Constitution of 1787, Colonel Biddle was appointed United States Marshal for Pennsylvania. At a later period he engaged in business as a notary public, and became well known in commercial circles for his ability in adjusting marine losses. He preserved the friendship and enjoyed the intimacy of General Washington until the close of the life of that great man, and maintained with him a familiar epistolary correspondence until within a few weeks of the General's decease.



Greene and Knox were also his warm personal friends and correspondents; and when the former was selected for the command of the southern army, one of his first preparations for the campaign, was an effort to obtain the services of Colonel Biddle, as Quartermaster-General. By his marriage with Miss Rebecca Cornell, he had a numerous family. His sons have occupied prominent and honorable positions in their native city; of his daughters, one was married to General Thomas Cadwalader, another to Dr. Nathaniel Chapman, and a third to Thomas Dunlap, Esq., of Philadelphia.

His distinguished and useful career ended on the 14th July, 1814, at Philadelphia, in the seventy-fifth year of his age.

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## COLONEL C. C. BIDDLE.

BY GEORGE ORD.

CLEMENT CORNELL BIDDLE, son of Colonel Clement Biddle (*ante*, p. 81), was born in Philadelphia on the 24th of October, 1784. His early education was received at the Academy of the University of Pennsylvania, then under the superintendence of the Rev. James Davidson. His scholastic training was not of long duration, for, in February, 1800, obtaining a midshipman's warrant, he went to sea, under the command of the elder Commodore Decatur. During a cruise in the Mediterranean he was placed in charge of a prize, which he brought successfully into port. After remaining about three years in the navy he quitted the service, and shortly afterwards visited England. This was a remarkable epoch, as Pitt and his eminent rival were still living,—Mrs. Siddons and her gifted brother had not yet retired from the stage. His reminiscences of the events of this visit were always fresh, and were the source of much pleasure to himself and the friends to whom they were occasionally imparted. On his return home he commenced the study of the law, under the instruction of the late John Sergeant, who, although but a few years his senior, was already known as a distinguished practitioner. Though Mr. Biddle was regularly called to the bar, he never engaged in practice; for the insult



offered to the United States, by the attack upon the Chesapeake frigate occurring about this time, the whole nation was aroused to an assertion of its rights against the pretensions of Great Britain; and, having a predilection for a military life, he accepted a commission, as Captain of dragoons, from President Jefferson, and was stationed with his regiment at New Orleans. The excitement was, however, temporarily lulled, and Mr. Biddle resigned his commission. But when war was declared against Great Britain, in 1812, he originated, in his native city, the company of volunteers known as the State Fencibles, of which company he was elected Captain, in July, 1812. Although just married, and in circumstances by no means opulent, he gave his whole time and abilities, during the continuance of the war, to the service of his country. On the organization of the First Regiment of Volunteer Light Infantry, of the Pennsylvania line, he was elected Colonel. In the autumn of 1814 his regiment was stationed at Camp Dupont, in the State of Delaware; but, owing to the retreat of the enemy from Baltimore, it was never actively engaged.

Upon the restoration of peace, Mr. Biddle returned to Philadelphia, and was appointed by the Governor a Notary Public, which office he exercised for several years. Although his early education had not been regular, and his varied and desultory mode of life had interrupted the pursuit of letters, still a thirst for knowledge stimulated his naturally vigorous intellect to active exertions. The duties of his office not requiring his whole attention, he employed his leisure in study, and soon made considerable advances in ethical and metaphysical investigations, and in the science of political economy, for which he evinced a decided bias. An American edition of the *Treatise on Political Economy*, by Jean Baptiste Say, translated into English by Prinsep, being projected, Mr. Biddle became the editor of it; and, by the addition of notes, and a translation of the introductory essay, which latter had been omitted by the English editor, the *Treatise* has been so favorably presented to the public that it has passed through many editions. An autograph letter from Dugald Stewart, in February, 1824, and another from J. B. Say, in August of the same year, afford evidence of their approbation of the services of the American editor.

Upon the assembling of the Free Trade Convention, in Phila-

delphia, in September, 1831, Mr. Biddle took an active part in their deliberations; and, though not prominent as a debater, for which his previous training had not qualified him, he was recognized as one of the best-informed members of that enlightened body. Entertaining decided opinions upon the great political questions of the day, he enforced them temperately, but without reserve, through the public journals, and in an extensive correspondence; but chiefly in conversational discussion, in which he was particularly happy. Though never in public office, it may be affirmed, that he probably contributed as much as any individual to the establishment of the policy which has been finally adopted by the national government, in regard to the subjects of currency and our commercial intercourse with foreign countries.

In the year 1821, Mr. Biddle was elected a member of the Philosophical Society; which, at an early day, had availed itself of the services of his father, and of his uncle, Owen Biddle, the latter of whom was appointed, in 1769, in conjunction with Joel Bailey, to observe, near Cape Henlopen, the transit of Venus over the sun's disk. He was also connected with some of the principal literary and benevolent associations of Philadelphia.

In the year 1834, Mr. Biddle was elected President of the Philadelphia Saving Fund Society, an institution which he had been instrumental in establishing, and over which he continued to preside until the time of his death.

In the spring of 1838, after an interval of more than thirty years, he revisited Europe, accompanied by his valued friend, the late William McIlvaine; and renewed his acquaintance with scenes and objects of which he still retained a vivid impression. Of this journey, which lasted about six months, he preserved a circumstantial record, which will long be cherished by those for whose sake it was especially intended.

Mr. Biddle's fine constitution continued unimpaired (with the exception of a lameness in one of his limbs, the result of an accident after his return from Europe), until May, 1854, when he was attacked by that disease which ultimately proved fatal. He rallied, however, from the first blow; and persevered in discharging his official duties until the summer of the year 1855, when he retired to a rural retreat, in a neighboring county, which he had

been in the habit of visiting for several years. Finding his end approaching, he returned to his city residence; where, on the 21st of August, in less than twenty-four hours after his arrival, he breathed his last.

It has been intimated that Mr. Biddle's academical education was limited; it was consequently imperfect; and a sense of his deficiencies was a stimulus to self-exertion. In the pursuit of knowledge, the pleasure of acquisition increases with exercise; and that which is attained by dint of application, is apt to be more durable than what is derived from authority. The example afforded by the subject of this notice, is strikingly appropriate, as but few individuals in our community were more conversant with those branches of polite literature, which enhance the usefulness of the citizen or impart a dignity to the gentleman. But it was among his confidential friends that his acquisitions were best known and estimated. His fondness for study increasing with years, he gradually became weaned from public life, which, to one of his temperament, is anything but inviting. Hence, as the domestic circle was the chief scene of his enjoyments, so there, where he was conspicuous for all those virtues which adorn humanity, has his loss been most severely felt, as it has occasioned a disruption of familiar associations which can never be supplied.

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## WILLIAM BINGHAM.

At what precise period William Bingham was born, we have not been able to learn; nor yet when he died; but he died while on a second visit to England, about the commencement of this century. Mr. Bingham married Anne, the daughter of Thomas Willing, one of the early celebrated families of Philadelphia. Being an active and energetic man, he was elected one of the representatives of Pennsylvania in the national Senate; but did not make any great impression as a legislator. William Bingham was one of the richest men in the colony. He was well known in Europe; and his wealth and position introduced him to the notice of many

celebrated foreigners. Among the most distinguished were the Barings. Alexander and Henry Baring married daughters of Mr. Bingham, which gave to the family a very high standing; so much so, that Mr. Bingham carried an aristocratic *hauteur* to the farthest extent.\* He was the first person that gave a masquerade ball in Philadelphia; and the strictest measures were used to keep out mechanics and their wives. But, notwithstanding the aristocratic notions of Mr. Bingham, he was found to be useful to the government during the Revolution. He was, as far back as 1771, stationed at St. Pierre, Myzene, in the West Indies, as consul.

From data we have by us, we will give some curious memoranda while he was consul. We find published, in the first number of "Brotherhead's American Notes and Queries," January 1st, 1857, a translation of some very curious receipts for money from William Bingham to some French captains; the names of the captains are sometimes signed to the receipt, and other times not. The receipts after 1776 are not signed with the name of the receiver of the money,—for what reason, we cannot divine:—

"ST. PIERRE, MYZENE, May 10th, 1779.

"Received, of Mr. William Bingham, five thousand seven hundred and seven francs two cents and three farthings for the support of the English prisoners and American sailors, from the beginning of the year 1777."

Another:—

"Received, of Mr. William Bingham, one thousand one hundred and thirty-five francs, for the passage of several Americans, deserted from the English, whom I brought here from St. Lucie."

The above extracts show, that William Bingham was actively engaged during the Revolution; and though we have no data to show that he advanced the government money, yet knowing, at

\* Alexander Baring married Anna, the eldest daughter of William Bingham, in Philadelphia; and the inheritance he had to thank her for, at the death of her father, amounted to \$900,000. She bore him nine children, of whom seven are still living. The eldest of these, called William Bingham, after his grandfather, is the present Lord Ashburton, who is now about sixty years of age. His wife is a Lady Sandwich, and their marriage has remained childless. Alexander Baring was just twenty-four years of age, in 1798, when married to Miss Bingham.



that time, that government needed more than it had, we have no doubt but he advanced liberally on account of the government.

After the peace of 1783, William Bingham prepared to go to Europe; and in 1784, he, with his wife, went there. They spent some time in France, and were presented at court to Louis XVI, where they attracted general attention. They remained in Europe about five years.

William Bingham being, to a great extent, identified with the history of Philadelphia, we will close this memoir with a brief description of the Mansion House and the property adjacent. The ground in the rear of the Mansion House, to Fourth Street, was a vacant lot, inclosed by a rail fence, to which the boys resorted to fly their kites. William Bingham built the Mansion House about the year 1790; and it was considered, at that time, the finest house in the city. He inclosed the whole area with a painted board fence, and planted a line of Lombardy poplars around it. These poplars were the first ever seen in Philadelphia. The grounds generally were laid out in beautiful style, and variegated with clumps of shade trees. The fence being very high, prevented the public from seeing this beautiful woodland scene; and, in consequence of this, William Bingham was much censured for doing what he chose with his own property. After his death, the whole was sold off in lots, and is now filled up with fine three-story brick houses. When the British were in Philadelphia, they used this ground for parade and exercise.

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### DR. BARNABAS BINNEY.

BARNABAS BINNEY, a Surgeon in the Revolutionary War, was a native of Boston, and born in the year 1751. His father was Barnabas Binney, a merchant of Boston; and the family name of his mother,—a lady of high intellectual culture,—was Ings.

Dr. Binney graduated at Rhode Island College, in 1774, afterwards known as Brown University. The institution was then under the presidency of the celebrated James Manning, D.D., and the



pupil acquired much of the mental accomplishments of the principal. His medical education was obtained in London and in Philadelphia, and he considered himself as belonging to the latter city. In 1776, he entered the public service of the United States, as Hospital Physician and Surgeon, settled in Pennsylvania, and married a native resident of Philadelphia, in 1777, and continued in the service till the army was disbanded, in 1783; he was distinguished for skill, the uniform bearing of a gentleman, and unfaltering kindness to his patients, though of the most humble description. An extraordinary instance of his success as a surgeon, occurred in the treatment of a seaman, who, while in the round-top of the *Monk*, in her fight with the *Hyder Ali* on the Delaware River, was shot through the body, the musket-ball entering the left groin, and passing through the intestines and lungs, and emerging under the right shoulder-blade. This man, after his recovery, was so grateful that he visited Dr. Binney annually during his life. A case of Dr. Binney's hospital practice shows the refined and honorable tone of his moral nature, as well as his professional skill. It was the case of the romantic and heroic Deborah Samson, who entered the army in Massachusetts, in October, 1778, as a private soldier, and continued to serve with credit until disabled by a wound, which brought her under Dr. Binney's care. Being supposed to have died, Dr. Binney, in searching for the pulsation of the heart, discovered her sex; and, taking her to his own house, most honorably concealed the fact until her discharge was obtained from General Washington. The life of this brave woman is given in Mrs. Ellet's "Women of the Revolution."

On leaving the army, the health of Dr. Binney was so impaired, that he lived but a few years, dying June 21st, 1787, aged thirty-six. He was a superior man; his attainments much above the standard of his time; and he was as much distinguished for modesty as for the most elevated characteristics of the scholar and the physician. He was the father of Horace Binney, of the Philadelphia bar, who was his oldest son, and was born in Philadelphia, on the 4th of January, 1780.

## THOMAS BIRCH.

THOMAS BIRCH, an artist, was born in London, in 1779, and emigrated to the United States in 1793. He established himself in Philadelphia, about the year 1800, and commenced the painting of profile likenesses. A visit, made in a pilot-boat, to the capes of the Delaware, in the year 1807, turned his attention to marine views, in the delineation of which he acquired a high reputation. During the war of 1812, he executed a series of historical paintings, representing the naval victories of the United States. He also painted many landscapes, which are highly prized, particularly those representing snow-scenes. His views of Philadelphia are excellent, and will perpetuate his fame as long as one of them remains preserved. He died in 1851, aged seventy-two years.

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## WILLIAM YOUNG BIRCH.

WILLIAM YOUNG BIRCH came to this country in the year 1793, and established himself in Philadelphia as a bookseller and stationer. He was the first in the United States to publish "The Gentleman's Annual Pocket Remembrancer," and "The American Lady's Pocket Book." He was an upright, independent, and excellent man, who "did good by stealth, and blushed to find it fame." Mr. Birch, under a stern, and frequently most *brusque* manner, concealed a heart alive to all the demands of misery and the obligations of friendship. His endowment to "The Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind," has made him a benefactor of no ordinary character, and has given him a fame that will endure to the end of time.

Mr. Birch was a native of Manchester, England. He underwent many hardships before he came to this country, where he was most successful in business, and amassed a large estate.

In the year 1800, he formed a copartnership with Abraham Small, with the view of publishing and selling books; and the business of the firm soon became large, for that period. They published many works of great merit, and received an extensive patronage.

Mr. Birch was an active officer, for many years, of "The Society of the Sons of St. George, established at Philadelphia, for the advice and assistance of Englishmen in distress," and continued his connection with it until his last hour. At his death he left many legacies, and forgot not the benevolent society with which he had been so long connected. He bequeathed to the society one thousand dollars, which was received from his executors, Messrs. William J. Duane, Isaac Elliott, and Joseph Sill, soon after his decease. His immense residuary estate was left to "The Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind;" and we are well informed, that the executors paid over to that institution property to the amount of about one hundred and eighty thousand dollars. A more munificent bequest has rarely fell under our notice; and it is a matter of pride to the Society of the Sons of St. George, that he can be numbered amongst their old associates.

His remains are interred at Laurel Hill Cemetery, over which the Society of the Sons of St. George have erected a handsome monument to his memory.

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## ROBERT MONTGOMERY BIRD, M.D.

DR. BIRD, a distinguished American scholar and author, was born at Newcastle, Delaware, in 1803, and educated in Philadelphia, for the medical profession. He early turned his attention to literature, and wrote three tragedies, "The Gladiator," "Oraloosa," and "The Broker of Bogota;" all of which have been popular on the stage. In 1834, he published his first novel, "Calavar;" and from that time until 1839, published in succession, "The Infidel," "The Hawks of Hawk Hollow," "Nick of the Woods," "Peter

Pilgrim," and "The Adventures of Robin Day;" all exhibiting considerable talent, and several of which have secured permanent popularity. Since 1839, when Dr. Bird suddenly retired from the field of letters for a home in his native village, he has not appeared as an author. A few years before his death, however, he returned to Philadelphia, and became one of the proprietors and editors of the "North American," contributing largely to its editorial columns.

To his family and a large circle of friends, his death, at the prime of life, was a painful bereavement. Dr. Bird died at his residence in Philadelphia, January 22d, 1854, at the age of fifty-one years.

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## JOHN BLEAKLY.

JOHN BLEAKLY was a native of Philadelphia. His father was born in the north of Ireland, and amassed a large fortune in America, which was mostly inherited by his son John. Mr. Bleakly was a gentleman of liberal education and great accomplishments. He was one of the few young Americans of the time whose fortune permitted them to travel in Europe. After spending some years abroad, he returned to America, and died in Philadelphia, about the year 1803. He was distinguished for his benevolence, and his zeal in the promotion of all literary objects. Being disappointed in love, he never married. He left a large estate; and, among other charitable bequests, he left to the corporation of Philadelphia £1000, as a fund to procure fuel during the winter season, for poor housekeepers,—widows; and £1000 as a fund to relieve those who might be reduced to the necessity of being placed in the hospital during the existence of the yellow fever,—both of which bequests were paid into the city treasury in 1804. The former bequest, with Mr. Girard's, of \$10,000, for a similar purpose, yields much relief to many of the poor of Philadelphia every winter. The yellow fever fund was paid over to the managers







of Wills' Hospital, under the authority of an act of Assembly, passed April 16th, 1838.

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## CHARLES S. BOKER.

BY JOSEPH R. CHANDLER.

It has seemed to us that no more rational curiosity can be manifested than that which inquires for the mode by which individuals have gained distinction; and no more commendable use can be made of literature than to satisfy that curiosity by a fair statement of the means by which the gifted mind has developed itself, on some principle of action, and the possessor acquired distinction by the integrity, good sense, and unflagging industry with which he pursued the object to which he had dedicated himself.

This is to present a knowledge of man,—of man as he exists and manifests himself in his domestic and social relations. History abounds with the records of achievements that strike the mind with surprise, as the results of some rash enterprise, or the consequences of some reckless course of speculation. These neither strengthen the good resolutions of the prudent, nor administer monition to the rash. The very success of a wild enterprise, that seems to disconnect cause from effect, begets or encourages a gambling spirit, and the sober order of business comes to be despised by the young aspirant, who thinks to overleap the prescribed landmarks of trade, and possess himself of the vast domain of wealth, as if it were only to risk and to win.

Much less instructive to the toiling many (though always interesting as a record of facts) is the biography of those who, having means, education, friends (altogether one name for *capital*) commence business with a full knowledge of all its theory and a ready resort in times of embarrassments. They have few of those primary difficulties to surmount, which harden the less fortunate man into economy and enterprise, and compel him to comprehend the whole

nature and risk of a transaction, before he involves himself, his time, and his little means in the undertaking. The distinction at which the true business man aims (for whatever motive he may suppose is influencing him, all his ends are distinction, and generally distinction by wealth), is to be reached, and reached alone by toil, by calculation, by sacrifice; the more direct, the more referable to the single individual are these various desiderata, the more instructive is the biography of that individual.

The young merchant who takes rank with his father or friend, and commences his life of business with all the advantages which establishment gives, may be as useful a member of the mercantile corps, or as valuable a citizen; but his biography is not so interesting to the general reader, and the record of his experience is far less instructive, as including few or none of those incidents which occur in the life of him who has to make his own position, and toil for years to reach the topmost round in the ladder of prosperity and desirable distinction. Such a man achieves little, though he enjoys much: he starts from the highest point which his father or his patron attained, and, before he commences his ascent, he is already above the level of those who surround him. He is distinguished already by the very position from which he begins to mount; and a notice of his progress, and an account of his success, can have little, beyond the power to gratify general curiosity, to render them desirable. To be instructive, to be encouraging, the record must contain the difficulties and the efforts of the first step; it is that which costs, and that which counts. And men desire to know, the moralist desires to recite, those acts and those sufferings about which the mass of the people will say: "That is what we had to suffer, that is what we ought to have done."

However distinguished a community may become by the prevalence of certain sciences and arts, in its midst, those sciences and arts are generally illustrated and developed by a few who are pre-eminent in their position, and distinguished by the success which is consequent upon their superior gifts and attainments. In another work, of a character kindred to this, we presented sketches of the life and professional pursuits of distinguished living lawyers of this country, and the general approval with which that work was received, satisfies us that, however successful may have been the

efforts of the various writers, in their attempts to give literary interest to their contributions, the chief source of success was in the sympathy which man has in the pursuits of man, and the interest he always takes in the minute record of those pursuits; an interest more and more active as the recorded events possess affinity with the daily occupation of the readers.

Among the financiers of the city of Philadelphia, Charles S. Boker holds a distinguished position; and the influence which his talents and experience naturally give to one of his wealth and command of money, is greatly augmented by the confidence which is inspired among the young and old of the business community, by a knowledge that he is of their number, understands their difficulties, and can estimate their means and available business capabilities.

Such a confidence manifested by business men generally, in one who has been of their number, is never fictitious, nor undeserved. The pretensions of the professional man may dazzle the mass of the uninitiated; and, for a time, the emptiest parade may excite the greatest respect and confidence in those who require the use of attainments which their pursuits do not supply; and, consequently, they have no means of judging of the character of the professions until failure shall have proclaimed their worthlessness.

Not so with the business man. Among business men, his eminence is the result of success, and his success is the consequence of the right application of talent. His ability is shown by his means; but his value, his usefulness, is to be tested by the willingness which he manifests to promote success in others, and to diminish for them the difficulties which he encountered and overcame in his progress upward.

Charles S. Boker was born in Philadelphia, January 19th, 1797, and received the elements of an English education in the school of Mr. Benjamin Tucker, a gentleman who will be remembered by many as eminently distinguished for common sense, and as discharging the duties of an instructor with a constant eye to the development of the practical business qualities of his pupils.

At fifteen years of age, young Boker was taken into his father's store, and employed in the ordinary occupations of lads in such a situation. At eighteen he was called to assist in a business when

peculiar circumstances required the long absence of his employer, and threw upon Boker a great responsibility. To this event, perhaps, he owes an early development of his business faculty, and an acquisition of those habits of promptness and decision which have since distinguished him.

It is not our purpose to note minutely the acts of Mr. Boker on entering upon business for himself, nor to record the results, which were slowly favorable. Such a course, though it might be profitable to the reader, and, in the present case, would certainly be honorable to the object of these remarks, is, nevertheless, neither expedient with regard to living individuals, nor consistent with the brevity included in the plan of this work.

The tendency of Mr. Boker's mind, the qualifications which confidential employment had perfected, led him very early to enter upon business on his own account, and to encounter those difficulties which his circumstances rendered inevitable, and enjoy that pleasure which moderate success in a favorite calling is sure to promote. And, though his early efforts were not seconded by the capital which gives ease to speculation and extension to ordinary business, yet all his affairs were managed with a system, without which the smallest movements of trade become confused, and extensive undertakings become involved in those inextricable difficulties which unfailingly result in insolvency.

Mr. Boker, earlier than most merchants in his line of business, began to comprehend the relations of a circulatory medium to the profits of buying and selling; and, understood the effect which the character of the currency was producing on the channels of trade, he therefore wisely and profitably turned his attention to that important element of business, and soon made himself so felt, in the various means of directing the exchanges of our country, that he became distinguished in a branch of business to which he had directed his attention only, as a means of promoting his success as a merchant.

Mr. Boker was more influential than conspicuous in the great financial movements which distinguished the State of Pennsylvania for several years after 1832; and, though his advice was not always adopted, nor his views carried out by others, yet so deep is man's attachments to his money that many silenced the whispers of



wounded pride, and resorted to Mr. Boker for a renewal of that counsel which they had rejected to their loss. It was easy to see, when the storm had passed, who had been the skilful pilot, who the unsuccessful pilot.

Whatever may have been the influence which Mr. Boker exercised among those with whom he was called to act on great financial matters connected with the State of Pennsylvania, and the City of Philadelphia, he did not appear to assume that substantive position which he subsequently pre-eminently occupied until the great revulsion of 1839-40, when the banks of Philadelphia suspended specie payments, and when, afterwards, some of them manifested an inability to take advantage of the improvement of the times, the restoration of general credit, and the return of business into its former and natural channels.

It is not our intention to enter into any exposition of the state of the fiscal affairs of the country at the time to which we allude, nor refer to the causes of the difficulties under which the banking institutions then labored, and from which it seemed impossible for some of them to be extricated. Though a full acquaintance with all these circumstances seems necessary to one that would appreciate the services of Mr. Boker, who distinguished himself by the promptness with which he took the direction of the Girard Bank of Philadelphia, when its capital seemed entirely sunk, and its charter worthless and forfeited.

As a general rule we may say that, to be permanently successful, a bank must be generally useful; and, we need scarcely add that, at the time to which we allude, some extraordinary circumstances must have attended the administration of any bank to make it popular. Yet as soon as Mr. Boker, in discharging the duties of President of the Girard Bank, discovered a basis on the remaining capital, for some action, he forthwith commenced such use of the limited means submitted to his direction as tended to promote regular business, and to re-establish confidence in the bank.

In the laborious duties which he was called on to discharge, in the resuscitation and direction of the Girard Bank, Mr. Boker made more observable those talents which had enabled him to establish a mercantile business without capital, and to sustain

respect and confidence in all the vicissitudes to which commerce is exposed in a large city.

Undoubtedly, Mr. Boker manifested an intimate acquaintance with the great and immutable laws of trade ; but he avoided any dependence upon mercantile axioms founded on the condition and circumstances of other countries and other times ; and distinguished himself, in his own business, and in the administration of the Girard Bank, by an adaptation of his plans to the peculiar circumstances of the times, so that he was ready for any new development of business wants, because he kept up a constant and intimate acquaintance with all the phases of commerce, in all its ramifications, and comprehended the difference between the fixed laws of trade in Europe and the varying condition of business in the United States, and this without supposing that there are not certain immutable principles in trade, by which it will regulate itself if left free to follow its own channel. Business men comprehend this truth, but they are not complete business men unless they feel that they have to calculate and act in a country where thirty-one sovereignties are annually enacting laws bearing upon commercial interests, and frequently originating and enforcing laws with a special view to set at defiance, if not to break down the old established maxims of business. We say they are not business men, if in this country, with such a state of things, they do not calculate and act differently from those of their craft in other countries, where the unchanged rules of trade stand from generation to generation, and the general monsoons of business are disturbed by no opposing winds, or side-gales of local legislation, to interfere with the presented course.

It is scarcely too much to say, that many of the accidents of trade come from a want of knowledge of the operation of the conflicting legislation of our different States, and that much of the character and success of the business man have resulted from the advantage which his sagacity enabled him to take of the ebullitions in business resulting from the operation of these diverse enactments ; for, though the authority of a law cannot pass beyond the geographical boundaries of the State by whose legislature it is enacted, yet its effect on business may be as wide as the commercial relations and individual interests of the citizens of that State.

It is not necessary to say that the subject of these remarks looked beyond the circle of trade in which he stood, and comprehended all the operations of commerce and legislation in other parts of the Union, and prepared himself for the exigencies which they might produce; and many who took counsel with him, or of him, learned to direct their affairs by the course which it was evident that Mr. Boker was steering, and derived, as they now admit, decided advantage from the foresight and sagacity on which his calculations were based.

In the sketch of the life and character of a citizen whose pursuits connect him with fiscal movements generally, and whose time and talents were devoted to the direction of a banking institution, one can scarcely avoid a reference to the changes in the monetary affairs of the community, and the decline and restoration of public confidence. These are the vicissitudes, their record goes to make up the history of commerce; they are the alternate yieldings and the advantages of the antagonistic powers, and the skilful financier not only comprehends the mode of moulding these circumstances to his own advantage, or of accommodating his own plans to their vicissitudes, but, if placed in a position of influence beyond the administration of his own means, he will exercise an influence upon those mutations which will be felt and acknowledged by the community that witnesses the exercise of his talents and the influences of his place.

When a merchant rises up under the accumulated load of adverse circumstances that attend and follow commercial disaster, the world does justice to the talents that are thus successfully exercised; while the fortunate possessor of those talents blesses the change or the times, and gratefully acknowledges the assistance of friends.

But corporations have their fall, and, sometimes, their resurrection; but, whatever they may owe to judicious management, and the favorable changes in the aspects of business, they have no friends beyond those where direct interest ensues; and what unfortunate individuals owe to the liberality of contemporaries and the kindness of old associates, banking companies must derive from the skilful energy and unabated prudence of the directing mind.

How little of public confidence was left in the banking institutions of Philadelphia, in 1841-42, we need not now inquire. It will

be recollected, however, that the failure of individuals and of institutions, near and distant, had left the Girard Bank with small assets, of doubtful value, a charter deemed forfeited by those most concerned in its preservation, and a total want of confidence on the part of the community. Yet character and usefulness were given to the assets, the charter was made sufficient for the transaction of banking, and a state of confidence was established with regard to the institution that placed it on a par with the best banking corporations of the country.

Without any injustice to those who officially advised with Mr. Boker, the President of that Bank, it is but a fair inference, from circumstances, and, indeed, only an utterance of public sentiment, to say, that the confidence enjoyed by the institution over which he presided was, in the main, the result of his judicious arrangement and administration of its affairs. And the success of the devotion of such talents to such an object justified at length the confidence which they commanded.

It is said that the successful business man is necessarily selfish; but this is said by those who are not successful business men. Business, commerce, trade, the exchange of commodities, is meliorating, humanizing; it is a continuance and enlargement of social intercourse, and produces, in a business man, exactly the effects which social intercourse produces among any and all classes of people. Besides, the amount of information which trade requires, and trade gives, the successful merchant is almost of necessity unselfish. He cannot hope for all the gain in any channel generally opened to business; and he knows that, as a general rule, the multitude share the profits; so that the necessities of trade make him at first social, and the uses of trade fixes liberality as a principle; so that we may fairly put down the business man, who has acquired wealth by a steady pursuit of his profession, as a liberalized person, and a true philanthropist; one who seeks the good of all as a necessity of his calling, and who, by his own success, has promoted the good of all within his influence.

While the object of this notice shared in the influences which successful business has upon its conductors in the extension of his views, the liberalizing of his plans, and the general operation of social good upon his mind, we think we should do injustice to the



feelings of a vast number of old and young, who will read this article, were we to omit a reference to the one or two circumstances in the life of Mr. Boker, which had an important effect on the life and circumstances of others.

Mr. Boker toiled through various grades of business, and comprehended, therefore, not only the wants of these grades, their difficulties and their advantages, but he understood fully the feelings and necessities of those who were in them.

A skilful and successful business man himself, and owing his successes entirely to his own skill, he felt for those who were seeking to contend against the difficulties of circumstances without that skill which insured his success, and without that hope which confidence in abilities inspires; and his feelings were not contented, and did not find their full gratification in occasional loans, or unfrequent monitions.

Many in Philadelphia, and many elsewhere, owe their success in business, and their domestic comforts, and social position, to his advice, his unselfishness, and his well-sustained liberality. The young, who, conscious of talents, yet doubtful, from inexperience, asked of him the result of his observation, and had at once their talents directed into the right channel. The enterprising, whose plans were formed in the midst of general fiscal prosperity, when a change of untoward circumstances disturbed the market, and jeopardized their credit, applied to Mr. Boker for advice and aid; and were, when circumstances warranted assistance, and candor secured confidence, sustained through their exigencies, by the fiscal means and the business knowledge of him to whom they resorted; and thus they have been saved from the shipwreck which impended, and the business community spared the shock which the want of "material aid" and sound advice would have produced.

Social benevolence, that is, commercial liberality, has a large extent. Philosophers say, "that the abstraction or addition of a pint of water, from or to the Mediterranean, at the Straits of Gibraltar, is operative on the shores of the Levant. So, too, we may say, that commerce, business through a vast extent of ramifications, feels and responds to any disturbing cause; and he is a public benefactor who, by timely aid, assists to prevent that disturbance of trade, and maintains quiet and confidence in the chan-





nels of commerce, even though his benevolence is exercised upon only a single object.

But it is not alone the merchant that derived benefit from Mr. Boker's assistance and advice. All men become business men at times, or rather all men have business at times, and wish they were business men. The professional man desires to make investments; the legatee, the guardian, and the executor look out to make the most of their own and their trust-funds; and those who have applied to Mr. Boker have received advice, such as few could give, fewer perhaps would have given; and the unfortunate man who had invested without advice, has acknowledged the disinterested kindness of Mr. Boker, when application has been made for advice by which something could be saved from the wreck of a misdirected investment, and the saved remnant placed beyond the reach of future accident. Though in the consideration of those whose calculations are of millions, and whose profits spring from those fluctuations that destroy others, this view of Mr. Boker's character may not be so striking or important as some of our readers may consider it; yet we cannot doubt that this class of benefit is most extensively felt, and we have occasion to know that, with the treasured memories of years, they have been garnered with the chief objects of thankfulness; and blessings have been invoked upon the head of him, who, amidst the calculations that included the fortune of the wealthiest, and his own prosperity, turned aside to listen to the story of embarrassment of the humble and unfortunate, and by counsel and aid prevented those apprehended results which must have brought unmitigable distress and misery upon an extensive circle of dependents.

One other characteristic of Mr. Boker was his sympathy with those who were laboring for competence and position out of the walks of business in which his lay. The variety of pursuits in which he, as a merchant, banker, and capitalist was directly engaged, gave him a knowledge of the circumstances of many who had no personal acquaintance with him; and the extent of his connections with business, enabled him also to know the wants, as well as the worth of such persons, and many such persons have been surprised at the minuteness of his knowledge of their affairs, his deep sympathy in their struggles, and his cordiality in responding to their

applications for aid, countenance, and advice. It has appeared to the writer of this article, as if Mr. Boker had a sort of commercial omniscience; cases that were presented to him with caution, where preparations had been made to sustain them with particular explanation, have been found familiar to him as if he had been aware of the whole course of their progress.

We refer to such circumstances to illustrate the characteristics of Mr. Boker as a man of business, and to show that, as a true philanthropist, he directs the advantage which his position insures, in a way to produce immense benefit to others, so that no success which has followed his exertions has been confined to himself; the very wealth which he gained was made the capital by which others succeeded, and his almost intuitive knowledge of business, and his vast experience which insures position and prosperity to himself, are funds from which all others derive means of advancement.

In seasons of commercial crises, when, like individuals, banks are compelled to protect themselves, and thus add to the general inconvenience, we often hear it said with bitterness, that banks produce the evils which sometimes destroy them with their customers; and, instead of assisting public enterprise, and protecting public credit, by a supply of additional currency, their liberality preventing the speculation which jeopardis trade, and their selfishness produces the results which are destructive to mercantile stability. We are not about to discuss that question, which may have more or less of truth as banks are judiciously or injudiciously managed.

There are many who have heard the remarks of the uninformed and the half-observing, that the lightning-rod which extends upward, from the basement to the roof of a building, is more likely to attract the electric fluid which destroys, than it is to conduct it off, and instances are adduced, of houses struck by lightning, which appeared unprotected by Franklin's great invention. It may be that injustice, in this particular, is done to the electric rod, which, having for years saved the building from the effects of the tempest, is unable to carry off the abundance of fluid which is escaping from the clouds, and is shattered to pieces by the same stroke that destroys what it has so long protected.

The crisis of the autumn of 1837, is too recent to require descrip-

tion, and the effects were so desolating as to render a reference to its extent painful to all. At that time, however, the laws of this commonwealth imposed upon the banks of our city a new duty; they had, from self-interest, to protect, as far as was possible, their customers; and they were required, by the Act of Assembly, to preserve themselves from a suspension of specie payment, or to consider their charter forfeited. They tried both,—but both together were impossible. They risked the latter, and thus, in a great measure, achieved the former; and the Legislature of the State intervened between their act and their destruction. Few persons had, at any time, taken a deeper interest in the monetary concerns of the community than had Mr. Boker; and it was, therefore, most natural that, while the situation of his own bank called for the exercise of all his fiscal abilities, and the use of his own fiscal means, he should be looked to by others of less experience for assistance in measures rendered necessary by the remarkable exigencies of the times.

How Mr. Boker gave himself up entirely to the wants of the community, those who know him best can best tell. Many of his personal friends saw that the efforts and sacrifices he was making, were telling terribly upon his system, already weakened by unrelaxed labor, and too little attention to a disease that was working on his system; and they sought to withdraw him from labor and anxieties which were wearing him down, but they soon found that a sense of duty was stimulating his exertions, and that involuntary forbearance would have been more injurious than a continuance of toil.

It was not our intention to refer to the domestic relations of Mr. Boker, and we do it now only to illustrate a point in his character, and to show to whom in part was due a portion of his powers of endurance. In no act of his life did Mr. Boker evince more sound judgment than in that which affected all his subsequent life. He was most happily married to a lady who knew how to discharge all the duties of her household, and was capable of sympathising in all the feelings, plans, and enterprises of her husband. Very few think of the vast importance to a public man of a sympathising, kind, affectionate wife, ready to hear the details of business, when their recitation seems necessary to wounded feelings, or gratified

ambition, ready to soothe that irritation which seems almost the necessary attendant of constant occupation abroad, and to suggest, without an appearance of superiority, the best remedy, and to point, without dictation, to the most available preventive. Thousands, who triumph by skill and power on the field, have been lost for want of sympathy at a fireside ; and he who has dictated to senates, and swayed the forum, has sunk into insignificance from a resort to means of enjoyment which home and home associations should have afforded. Mr. Boker was most happy in his domestic relations. He seemed to return from the contests of the day to the sanctuary of his house, to receive there his highest reward for successful exertions, or the most effective consolation for the mortification of defeated plans, or ingratitude for benefits conferred.

While that means of consolation and of strength remained, Mr. Boker rallied under all difficulties, and, whatever he touched, prospered under her direction. But, on the 22d day of December, 1857, after a painful illness, which allowed of little hope, she, who had been to him from youth the wife, the friend, the comforter, was taken away, and the husband never rallied from the shock which that new, untried, unanticipated calamity, produced. He sought to divert grief by a new devotion to business ; he refused to refrain from toil, but he accepted the monition which the terrible event and its effects suggested ; and, while the usual hours were given to secular affairs, he looked forward to the time when he should be called to renew his association with her who had been the principal motive and means of life's success ; and he prepared for the event ; prepared with no formalities, which seem often the resort of the indifferent, but with a heartiness and devotion which showed that those important acts of his life had had their motive in a sound sentiment and a deep-seated principle.

Mr. Boker was soon compelled to retreat to his chamber, and there, in silence and pain, to meditate on the life that is, and that which is to come. The report from that last retreat is most favorable to the hopes of his friends ; and he who had stood forward among the most active in the haunts of business, seemingly absorbed in the world, and worldly things, showed, in the five weeks of his remaining life, how possible it is for the powerful, well-regulated mind, to dismiss from itself that which has so long occupied its



powers, and to become absorbed at once and fully with concerns that are of eternal consequence.

On the tenth day of February, 1858, Mr. Boker breathed his last; quietly passing away from those active scenes in which he had performed so important a part, leaving a good name, and honorably acquired wealth, to two sons. One of them, Mr. George S. Boker, is greatly distinguished in American literature; and the other, Dr. Charles S. Boker, is a well-educated physician. Leaving behind him many who remember, with gratitude, the favors which he conferred upon them; leaving to the young and the enterprising the encouraging example of a life of successful industry and mercantile honor. Such men constitute a part of a city's boast, as they are true public benefactors.

Of Mr. Boker, it may be said, that while he was ever indifferent to distinction, he seemed foremost in whatever he undertook.

We should fail in one object of these papers were we to omit a reference to the encouragement which the position of Mr. Boker suggests to any young man aspiring to take rank with the business men of the community in which he resides. An honorable ambition, like that, is to be indulged and encouraged; and the success of others, and the means whereby they did ascend, are to be regarded as encouraging and instructive.

Mr. Boker owed none of his success to any accident of trade; and none of his possessions are due to parsimonious uses of his earnings. He took the regular channels of business, and navigated them in the regular way, and has used the superfluities of profits in a mode to promote domestic comforts, and consistent with social proprieties.

There are incidents of his commercial life in which considerable additions have been made rapidly to his capital; but these were always governed by established mercantile uses, and needed no concealment to insure success.

Economy undoubtedly made the first earnings a means of future profit; and mercantile taste, and mercantile pride, applied all the results of success to the enlargement of continued operations.

With a grateful sense of early favors, Mr. Boker often referred back to instances of confidence and kindness in the wealthy and established, by which his business scope and means were enlarged.



It is, however, well for the young to understand that such instances are not sporadic; they come with cause and await at all times an object. Such acts are not the mere arbitrary exercise of a sudden impulse of kindness,—they denote good feeling, indeed, and liberality of view, but they are due to the habits and character of those whom they aid, and it should be understood that the liberalizing spirit of trade leads the established business man to inquire out those whom his favors may assist, with almost as much earnestness as the wants of the aspirant suggests the necessity of a patron.

And we may safely say, while we do justice to the good wishes of those who encouraged the early efforts of Mr. Boker, that their confidence was won by his good sense, his business habits, and his promptness and punctuality in all his transactions. These qualifications are beyond pecuniary capital, for they cannot be lost by speculation, and they command for their possessor all that the speculation of others had acquired.

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### THOMAS BOND.

THOMAS BOND, a distinguished physician and surgeon, was born in Maryland, in 1712. After studying with Dr. Hamilton, he spent a considerable time in Paris. In 1734, he commenced practice at Philadelphia. The first clinical lectures in the Pennsylvania Hospital, were delivered by him. He assisted in founding the College and Academy. In 1743, he was a member of a literary society, composed of Franklin, Bartram, Godfrey, and others, and an officer of the American Philosophical Society from its establishment. The Annual Address before the Society was delivered by him in 1782, on "The Rank of Man in the Scale of Being." He died in 1784, aged seventy-two years. He published, in the "London Medical Inquiries and Observations," Vol. I, an account of a Worm in the Liver, 1754; on the use of Peruvian Bark in Scrofula, Vol. II.

## PHINEAS BOND.

MR. BOND, British Consul at Philadelphia, at the close of the last century and at the beginning of the present, was an American by birth. He was a loyalist during the Revolutionary troubles, and for his loyalty he received the appointment of Consul at Philadelphia. He filled the position for a number of years, and resided, for a considerable period, in Chestnut Street, above Fifth, on the north side.

Mr. Bond was an uncle of the late General Thomas Cadwalader, of this city, and consequently a grand-uncle of Judge John Cadwalader and General George Cadwalader. Mr. Bond was also connected with the noble family of the Erskines.

He died in London, December 29th, 1815.

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## HENRY BOND, M.D.

THE death of this gentleman occurred at his residence, in Philadelphia, May 4th, 1859, suddenly, from disease of the heart, an affection of some years' standing. Though entitled to, and receiving, high consideration and respect as a physician of over forty years of successful practice in this city, Dr. Bond attained his widest reputation elsewhere, as the author of two large octavo volumes, entitled "Family Memorials," comprising a genealogical history of the early settlers of his native place. This book was published in the beginning of 1856. On the decline of his physical strength, ten or twelve years since, so much as to induce him to give up a share of his more active pursuits, he devoted himself with great industry to the preparation of a work on the personal history of New England families, and the two large volumes, which are the result of his labors, contain enough of history in the more general sense to constitute many ordinary volumes of the most valuable

character. The work is a credit to the literature of the country, without an equal among those which approach its peculiar character in this country. Two or three extracts from the Introduction of this valuable work will give the reader some idea of the man, and the extent of his labors.

“A desire to trace a lineage and to perpetuate its remembrance, seems to have been so prevalent among the enlightened and semi-civilized people, and even among barbarians, of all ages, even the remotest to which either history or tradition extends, that it may be regarded as an instinct of human nature—an innate principle, implanted for wise and benevolent purposes. If so, ought it not to be cherished by the wise and the good?”

“When persons affect an utter indifference to their lineage, or a history of the past generations of their families, and deride any attention to them as a foolish weakness and vanity, they are contravening an innate principle, and it may be generally suspected that they have some knowledge of a lineage, which they would consign to oblivion, because it is untitled, and without a good renown. Some such persons build costly ostentatious monuments to procure present distinction, and a lasting memorial for themselves, while they never inquire for the burial-place of their ancestors, and leave their graves to utter and most disrespectful neglect.”

“The first part of the work was put to press three years ago, 1852, when the writer had not the prospect of being able to prosecute it any further, when he was not able to digest and arrange all the materials in his possession, and when the field of research was, as it still is, very far from being exhausted. Yet it then seemed advisable to the writer, and to the friends whom he consulted, to print it, such as it then was, leaving additions and corrections to be made by others, rather than to leave such a mass of materials to be lost, or left to the care of those who might not appreciate or understand them.”

Dr. Bond was a member of the historical societies of this country, almost without exception, and was held by all of them in high respect. He was also always a member, and until recently an active member of the various scientific and literary societies of this city, and a contributor to the “Transactions” of medical societies. Though suffering for a year past from a paralytic stroke, his literary

activity continued to the very day of his death. He was a native of Watertown, Massachusetts, a graduate of Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, and removed from Concord to this city in 1819. He died at the age of seventy.

### ELIAS BOUDINOT.

MR. BOUDINOT, of one of the numerous Huguenot families, which, taking refuge in America, from persecutions in France, made its return in patriotic efforts when America was to be defended, was born in Philadelphia, May 2d, 1740. He studied law with Richard Stockton, and his first wife was a sister of that distinguished statesman. He married, afterwards, a lady of New York, of the Beekman family, who survived him.

Boudinot became distinguished as a member of Congress, of which body he was President in 1782, and was rewarded, by Washington, with the appointment of Director of the Mint, as the successor of Rittenhouse, in 1796. He was the first President of the American Bible Society, on its creation, in 1816. He took great interest in the cause of missions, particularly with reference to the Indians, the question of whose descent he endeavored to solve in his elaborate volume, "A Star in the West; or, an humble attempt to discover the long lost Ten Tribes of Israel, preparatory to their return to their beloved City, Jerusalem." This he published at Trenton, in New Jersey, in 1816. It is a curious work, which displays considerable diligence in the collection of facts and conjectures, and is written with an unaffected tone of sincerity. The writer evidently regarded the work as a religious duty. From his study of the sacred writings, his own observations of the Indian character, and the writings of Adair (who had taken this view), Colden, Brainerd, and others, furnishing facts, exhibiting similarity of customs, he established himself in the conclusion that the American Indians were the descendants of the lost tribes.

He also published, in 1790, "The Age of Revelation; or, the Age of Reason an Age of Infidelity;" an "Oration before the So-



Author of *The Art of War*

*The Art of War*

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ciety of Cincinnati," 1793; and "The Second Advent of the Messiah," 1815. He was generous and public-spirited, giving the Bible Society, on one occasion, ten thousand dollars, and founding, in his lifetime, a costly cabinet of natural history at Princeton. He left numerous liberal legacies, at his death, for charitable uses.

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## JOHN BOUVIER.

OF JOHN BOUVIER we may feel somewhat of pride. Of foreign origin, and starting in life under great disadvantages of a literary kind, he proved the noble character of our institutions, which enabled him to rise high in public esteem and usefulness, and will long continue to present to our young men an eminent model of labor and perseverance to obtain honor scarcely to be reached in any other country.

We have said that John Bouvier was of foreign origin. He was born in the village of Codognan, in the department du Gard, in the south of France, in the year 1787. His father, also named John, was a native of the same village; and his mother, Marie Benezet, of the distinguished family of that name, ornaments both to France and to the United States, was born in the same neighborhood. They both belonged to the Society of Friends, whose principal place of worship in that district was at Congenics, the native village of Marie Benezet. The elder John Bouvier was one of the principal persons in his native town; he was universally esteemed, and his memory is still cherished as that of a truly good man. At one period he was possessed of considerable property, the far greater part of which, however, he lost by his patriotism and his benevolence. He was a warm republican, and, during the first French Revolution, trusted too much to the national paper money, called assignats, and lost a considerable share of the property which he had partly inherited from his father and uncle, and partly acquired by trade; and after this, in part by dishonest merchants with whom he became connected, and in part by the unsettled state of the times, he lost almost the whole of what he had remaining. These

things, together with his ardent attachment to the principles avowed by the people called Quakers, which, he understood, were professed in the United States without molestation, determined him to emigrate. Here, too, he expected, with greater facility and comfort, to educate his children in the peculiar principles to which he avowed his own attachment. In this decision he was cordially sustained by his wife, a woman in every way worthy of the remembrance she honorably enjoys for great energy of character, benevolence of disposition, and correct religious conduct. Their determination thus to remove from their native country was strengthened by what they knew of several distinguished Americans who had visited France, some of whom had partaken of their hospitality. On the 10th of August, 1802, John Bouvier, the elder, his wife, with John and another son, set sail for Philadelphia, where they arrived after a tedious passage of sixty days.

John Bouvier, the younger, was now a youth of fifteen. He was, of course, by birth a member of the Society of Friends, and regularly accompanied his mother to their meetings. About his childhood there was little that was remarkable; but his amiable disposition, and his intelligent habits, secured the esteem of all who knew him. His education in early life was neglected; or, perhaps, we ought to say, that opportunities for obtaining education, especially in a French country village, were almost infinitely more rare than they are at present. Still, however, young John had made such progress as to be able to assist his father in his commercial affairs, and often did he visit Nismes to consult the merchants and others on important matters of this character; it is probable, however, that, at that period, no one of the family imagined the eminence to which he was destined to rise.

The arrival of this French family in Philadelphia was to them and some others an incident of no small interest. It was Sunday morning when, on the second or third wharf below Spruce Street, they set their feet on shore; the city was then visited by that dreadful scourge, the yellow fever, which might well excite their apprehensions; and, to add to their agitations, no one of the four knew a word of the English language. After a while, they found out a French boarding-house in Little Dock Street, to which they repaired for breakfast. Happily the father had been provided with

a letter of introduction to Doctor Griffitts, who was then a prominent member of the Society of Friends; they ascertained that his residence was No. 62 South Front Street, but, on their arrival there, they found he was gone to meeting, and, ascertaining that he could speak the French language, they determined to follow him there. We will give an extract from a short autobiography in the handwriting of the Judge, which, alas, goes but a year or two beyond the period of which we are giving an account. It was written but two months before the death of its author.

"The meeting-house was at the southwest corner of Delaware Second and Market Streets, the same in which Dr. Franklin took his first nap in Philadelphia. Without knowing it, I followed his example, and took a comfortable sleep there too.

"When the meeting broke up, we were the objects of all eyes, as we had been when we entered. My mother, particularly, made a grotesque appearance. She wore a large white muslin cap, instead of a bonnet, such as are still worn by the old women in the villages of the south of France, with a kind of jacket or short gown, and petticoat of different stuffs. My father had on a French dress, made in a very simple manner; and my brother and myself wore the costume usually worn by country boys of our age in the south of France.

"We were soon recognized by Benjamin Johnson, who had been in France a few years before. A group collected around us, some of whom had a smattering of French. Among them were the late Doctor Joseph Parrish, and Deborah Howell, daughter of Arthur Howell, a celebrated minister among Friends, and a very excellent man. A wealthy merchant, named John James, who afterwards became my friend, and was very useful to me, insisted upon our going home with him to dinner, and we accepted his kind invitation.

"In the course of the afternoon and evening, many persons called to visit us, no doubt from motives of curiosity. Among them was Benjamin Johnson. He had been in France, as before stated, and was at the house of my grandmother Benezet, in Congenies, and at Louis Antoine Majolier's, her nephew. While in Congenies he was taken sick, and was nursed by my grandmother, my cousin Louis Antoine Majolier's wife, and several other of my relatives,

with great tenderness. He had not forgotten all these kindnesses, and he came to see and welcome us to the United States. He insisted upon taking my brother and myself to his house, No. 31 Market Street, where he kept a bookstore. His house I never left until I was twenty-one years of age. My father and my mother were kindly entertained at John James's until my father got into employment."

We may add to this simple and touching narrative, that the elder John Bouvier obtained employment near Frankford, where he died of yellow fever in the autumn of 1803, and was buried in the Friend's ground of that village. John took care of his mother from that time until she returned to France, several years afterwards, and extended a father's care towards his younger brother until that brother died.

Benjamin Johnson, besides being a bookseller, was a printer, in which business he brought up John; who, when he arrived at twenty-one, having pleased Mr. Johnson and other Friends, by his skill and attention to business, he was furnished by them with means of engaging in business for the support of himself and wife, for he was now married. His place of business was in Cypress Alley, where he remained about two years.

In 1812, Mr. Bouvier became a citizen of the United States, and about the same time removed to West Philadelphia, where he built a printing office, which is still standing, at the junction of the Darby Road and the turnpike. Here also he remained about two years, and then returned to Philadelphia; but as business presented increasing difficulties, after a year or two he removed to the western part of Pennsylvania, and settled at Brownsville, on the Monongahela river. In this town he commenced the publication of a weekly newspaper, called "*The American Telegraph*," the first number of which now lies before us, and bears the date of Wednesday, November 9, 1814. In his address to the public, setting forth the principles upon which his paper should be supported, he states, "That the editor will discountenance all factions and factious men, under what plausible name soever they may be shielded. He will never censure the executive and other public functionaries, let them be attached to what party they may, when, in his opinion, they act as becoming Americans; nor basely crouch to any man, or set of



men, and neglect the duty which every editor in the Union owes to the public—an exposure and support of the truth; but firmly abet, with all his talents, ‘JUSTICE, LAW, AND LIBERTY,’ [the motto of his paper,] against all who shall attempt to overthrow them.”

But all this time events were in progress which changed the character of John Bouvier’s life, and led to the usefulness and honors with which his subsequent career was crowned. He had very long desired to study law, but had despaired of attaining his desire, from the supposition that a collegiate education was an indispensable pre-requisite. We have already intimated that his early training had been much neglected, and we may now add that his mind had acquired up to this period very little furniture. Having been brought up among the Friends, who at that time disapproved of elegant literature, his reading was confined to their doctrinal works, and he soon received a surfeit of George Fox’s productions and Job Scott’s Journal. He often related in after life, with what delight, having obtained a copy of the History of Catharine the Second of Russia, and Charles the Twelfth of Sweden, he devoured them in secret. Having one day, while at Brownsville, occasion to visit Uniontown, in the same State, on business, he called at the office of the Hon. Andrew Stewart, late member of Congress, then practising law there. While in the office John Bouvier took up “The Rules of Court,” which lay on the table, and discovered, to his vast astonishment, that he had been wholly mistaken as to a collegiate education being a pre-requisite to the practice of law. His mind was instantly decided as to his course. On going home, he told his wife that he intended to study law; she endeavored to dissuade him from it, but without success, and he entered his name with Mr. Stewart as a student.

It will be readily believed that the life of Mr. Bouvier at this time was by no means one of ease. As his time during the whole day was taken up in his printing office, and in editing his paper, he was obliged to study at night, and frequently would he devote all its hours to this employment. Equally true was it that during this period he and his wife were compelled to practise the most rigid economy, and to deny themselves many gratifications enjoyed by their neighbors. At this season their house at Brownsville had only three rooms, but this was amply sufficient to contain himself

and his wife, their furniture, and his books. Before the completion of his preparatory studies, disposing of his business, he removed with his family to Uniontown, in Fayette County, where, after due examination, he was admitted to practice. During these studies, he made a complete analysis of "Blackstone's Commentaries," which is still in the possession of his family; this he showed to his examiners, who were greatly pleased with it. This task exhibited the analytical constitution of his mind, which his after labors so fully developed. His admission to practice as attorney of the Court of Common Pleas of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, occurred on December 11th, 1818, on the report of John Lyon, Thomas Irwin, and John Kennedy, examiners, and the motion of John Lyon, Esq.

On the removal of Mr. Bouvier to Uniontown, he purchased the property of a newspaper there, called "The Genius of Liberty," with which he incorporated "The American Telegraph," and published it in connection with Mr. J. M. Austin, of that place, under the title of "The Genius of Liberty and American Telegraph," having for its motto: "When a government is founded on opinion, it is of the essence of its preservation that opinion be free." The first number of this paper appeared on Saturday, April 4th, 1818, and the last with which Mr. Bouvier was connected was issued July 18th, 1820. These papers, published at an interesting period in our history, abound with a large mass of valuable matter. "The Genius of Liberty," in an enlarged and improved form, still continues to be published.

During the September term, September 11th, 1822, on motion of John Kennedy, afterwards Judge Kennedy, Mr. Bouvier was admitted to practice as an attorney of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. The following year he removed to Philadelphia, and continued the practice of the law; in this city he resided till his death. January 9th, 1836, he received a commission from Governor Ritner, as Recorder of the City of Philadelphia, an office which he held till March 27th, 1838, when the same governor commissioned him as an Associate Judge of the Court of Criminal Sessions.

While sitting in this court, a circumstance took place which, as it is admirably illustrative of his honest and benevolent character, we shall here introduce. A woman applied to him, who represented herself as in great distress, and needing pecuniary assistance. She

stated that her husband, a gambler, was at that time in Moyamensing Prison for crime, and that she stood greatly in need of relief. He gave her ten dollars, and the fact soon faded from his remembrance. Some year or more afterwards, he was met in the street by a man who said that he owed the Judge ten dollars. The Judge replied that he had no knowledge of him. "You gave my wife," said the man, "ten dollars when I was in prison, and I wish to repay you." Recollecting the case, the Judge remarked: "I cannot take your money." "Why?" asked the man, with surprise. "Because you did not come honestly by it," was the reply. The man's pride suddenly became offended; he thrust the money into the Judge's pocket, and escaped. After some inquiry, the Judge found the man's wife, and returned to her the money, which he was unwilling to keep.

Other facts, equally illustrative of his high integrity in connection with the discharge of his duties, might easily be multiplied. It was with him an established rule, while engaged in the practice of the law, never to permit his clients to go into court, if by any means he could keep them out. He advised them that it was much better to compromise; and he very often managed to get the parties together, and settled things to their mutual satisfaction. He seldom failed to represent to them the uncertainty of juries, the ill feeling engendered by law-suits, the time wasted in attending courts from term to term, and all the other inconveniences connected with "the uncertainty of the law."

Mr. Francis N. Buck, a very respectable merchant, stated, that being applied to by a friend of his from the country, to recommend to him a lawyer, he introduced him to Mr. Bouvier. On making known their business, Mr. Bouvier remarked that he had already been retained on the other side. "Never mind that," said Mr. Buck to his friend, "do you retain him also." "Well," said Mr. Bouvier, "if my client is willing to agree that the matter shall be submitted to me, I will endeavor to do what is right." The matter was submitted to him, and was settled to their mutual satisfaction.

For several years before his decease he declined practice, except giving advice to a few friends, who were not willing to relinquish his counsel; and to the poor, saying, that while he lived the poor should never want an adviser.

We turn now to consider Judge Bouvier in the character of an author, a capacity in which he will certainly be known to posterity.

His first work, published in 1839, was "A Law Dictionary, adapted to the Constitution and Laws of the United States of America, and of the several States of the American Union." Immediately on its appearance, this work received the entire and cordial approval of our most eminent jurists, such as Story and Kent, Greenleaf, Randall, and Baldwin, and was received with equal approbation in other lands. Joy, the distinguished Irish writer of "Letters on Legal Education in England and Ireland," not only commended it in his volume as "a work of a most elaborate character, as compared with English works of a similar nature," but, in a private letter to its author, expressed his sense of its high reputation. To this work the Judge had devoted the most unremitting labor of ten years; and, during the remainder of his life, he spent much time on its improvement. Many of its articles were re-written, and large additions made to it, so that the fourth edition may be said to be the work of nearly a quarter of a century.

In 1841, he was engaged by some booksellers to prepare for the press a new edition of "Bacon's Abridgment," in ten large volumes, including about eight thousand pages. One of these volumes was edited by Judge Randall, and a part of another by Mr. Peterson, Judge Bouvier's son-in-law, and the remaining volumes by the Judge himself, who devoted to it the labors of four years. Among other improvements, he prepared the first index it ever had, for each volume, and a general one for the whole. A single sentence as to the character of this work, as it came from his hands, would be entirely superfluous.

In 1851, only two months before his death, he published, in four massive octavo volumes, his last and greatest work, "Institutes of American Law," dedicated to his friend, Chief Justice Taney. Of itself this work forms for its author a noble, enduring monument of fame; and, as it becomes known, it will be found indispensable to every lawyer who would be well grounded in the philosophy of legal science. But it might almost be regarded as presumption for the writer of this sketch to praise a work which has already re-



ceived the plaudits of men like the Hon. R. B. Taney, the Chief Justice of the United States, Judges Jones and McLean, Wayne and Grier, Irwin and Kane, with many others of high legal reputation, such as Attorney-General Read, Chief Justice Green, and the eminent writer on evidence, the Hon. Simon Greenleaf. From some of these, Judge Bouvier received, before his death, highly gratifying testimonials as to the value of his labors; and, since that event, many other evidences have been afforded that the volumes will essentially serve the profession, and be eminently useful to general scholars for generations to come.

The question must have already suggested itself to the reader, how could Judge Bouvier, in connection with a general practice, occupying his attention during the business hours of the day, perform all this intense labor? The reply is readily given: he was a very hard student, and improved every moment of his time. Of a bilious temperament, he seemed never to tire; and the amount of labor of which he was capable, as we have already seen, was immense. In addition to his clear intellect, and his powers of endurance, he had made himself an excellent scholar. He did not, when he had a work to prepare for the press, simply "read up" for the occasion, for his mind was well furnished, and, like a fountain, it was incessantly sending forth its pure limpid streams. He became a proficient in the Latin and Spanish languages, and well understood the English, French, and Provençal, the language of the Troubadours, in whose country he was born. He carefully studied the various systems of foreign, as well as of common law. Everything he undertook he did thoroughly, always going radically to his work. In reading, it was his constant practice to analyse the whole subject of his study, arranging all its heads and divisions, fixing all firmly in his mind, and so making it his own; taking care never to put aside his volume till he had a clear view of its contents, however complicated the subject. In the writings of Pothier and Toullier, those great French jurisconsults, he greatly delighted; and, upon the method of the former, he founded his "Institutes of American Law."

It may not be improper, for the sake of our young men who are in "the pursuit of knowledge under difficulties," to write a line or two on the daily routine of Judge Bouvier's labors. He rose every



morning at from four to five o'clock, and worked till breakfast time, about seven or eight; he then left home for his office in the city, where, in the intervals of business, he was employed on his books; when he returned to his dinner, he went forthwith to his study; after dinner he again visited his office, and, arriving at home about five o'clock, he devoted himself to labor till eleven. What may not such men effect?

It is almost unnecessary to add that such a man as Judge Bouvier was devoted to books. He had a large library, probably one of the finest of a private kind in the country. It contained not only the writers on the Common Law, with the English and American Reports, but the Pandects, Digests, and Institutes of the Roman Laws, with the Treatises of Domat, Savigny, and Pothier, upon the Civil Laws. The works of Pothier, Toullier, and D'Aguesseau, edited by Pardessus, and many other foreign writers on different branches of the law, the Laws of Scotland, and other foreign lands, adorned his shelves. He had, too, an extraordinary taste for Dictionaries on all subjects, and had accumulated probably the largest collection of such works to be found in this country.

It has too often happened, that when men have risen from a low condition of life, by their own talents and acquirements, they become supercilious to their equals, and haughty towards their inferiors; but, from all this, Judge Bouvier was always found at the greatest possible distance. He was especially distinguished for his urbanity and kindness to the younger members of the bar, and placed his time, his library, and his counsel, very much at their service, always delighted to do what lay in his power to raise them to a level with himself. He seemed to cherish the idea that other young men might, if they would, rise to the same pinnacle; and desired to remove some difficulties out of their way which very long stood in his own. This regard for those who were striving against obstacles in the way of their advancement, was carried into the whole of his life. Since his death, his son-in-law was one day stopped in the streets of Philadelphia, in the dusk of the evening, by a stranger, who inquired as to his connection with Judge Bouvier. Being satisfied on this subject, he added, with a manner indicative of nature and simple sincerity, "Well, the good old man's gone." "You say well, he was a good old man," was Mr. Peterson's reply.

"Yes," added the stranger, "I used to bind books for him; and, one time, he gave me some books to bind, which I kept for a long time, not having the means to procure the materials to bind them. Calling one day to see if they were not finished, on my telling him they were not, he asked, 'What is the matter? Are you in want of money?' I said, 'Judge, you have hit the nail on the head.' He immediately handed me ten dollars with a pleasant smile, and left me. At that time I had not a cent to go to market with." This little incident was but a specimen of a thousand others of a like character, which illustrated his kindness of heart and his feeling of brotherhood towards those around him.

The person of Judge Bouvier was every way pleasing. In height he was about five feet nine inches, with dark complexion, and dark, soft, yet penetrating eyes. His manners happily blended dignity with courtesy, and no man could spend an evening with him without retiring with pleasant recollections of the instructive character of his conversation, carried on with unaffected ease. His judgment was evidently clear and correct, and his apprehension quick, at once taking a full comprehension of a subject, and all its correlatives. His intellect immediately penetrated any topic brought before him, which he intuitively analysed, reduced to first principles, and carried out into all its consequences. His friendships were cordial and affectionate, and were never influenced by mere caprice; and it has been well said of him that he never forgot a favor, and could easily forgive an injury.

While we write thus, we are not forgetful that society at large received from him benefits, of which the deprivation is not small. Without noise, and without even a momentary desire to be prominent, he was warmly attached to the great philanthropic institutions of the day. The temperance cause found in him one of its most cordial friends, and was served alike by the influence of his example, his purse, and his pen. He was for many years a member and director, and, at length, President of the Apprentices' Library of Philadelphia, for the supply of useful reading for youth of both sexes while serving apprenticeship; and directly and indirectly was one of the greatest benefactors of this valuable institution. His philanthropy went even farther. While on the bench, he became deeply impressed with the fact that ignorance cherished crime, and

that useful knowledge discouraged it; and, on this account, he was assiduous in placing instructive books in the hands even of the prisoners, and, in several instances, it is known that this practice was not without good results.

Devoted as Judge Bouvier was to labor, there were moments when he could devote his pen to Fancy, and court the Muses. Not a few productions of imagination, in the shape of poetry, found a welcome home in one or two of the weekly journals of Philadelphia, indicating that had he cultivated literature as a pursuit, he might have taken his position on elevated ground.

The last illness of our friend was short, and of an affecting character. He left home one morning in his usual health, to visit his office, where he had been for several hours, when two friends called on him, and found him in his chair, stricken with apoplexy, and quite insensible to everything around him. He was immediately visited by the most eminent medical skill in the city, and as soon as possible removed to his home, but after living just one week he ceased to breathe. It is believed that his life was shortened by his extremely regular habits of persevering sedentary labor. Nature demanded occasional relaxation, and that he should sometimes recreate body and mind; but of this he could form no proper idea, and made the change of work his only relaxation. How rarely is such an impropriety committed! The man who acts in this way may well be forgiven, when so many thousands are ruined by an opposite course of conduct. The death of Judge Bouvier occurred November 18th, 1851, in the sixty-fourth year of his age, and his remains were deposited in the cemetery of Laurel Hill, in the vicinity of Philadelphia, so long the city of his residence. Of this beautiful place of sepulture, his own pen has written:—

“There is a spot beside fair Schuylkill’s side,  
Favored by nature and adorned by art,  
Where pensive woe and plaintive grief abide,  
And to the soul their solemn mood impart :  
Where towering trees,  
Fanned by the breeze,  
With murmuring music soothe the mournful heart.  
The rich and poor, the humble and the proud,  
The old and young, each in his lowly bed,  
The plain and gay, are all brought there to crowd  
The city of the dead.”

It scarcely need be added to this brief sketch, that Judge Bouvier was cordially attached to the government of the country whose laws he has so admirably illustrated, and several of whose offices he filled with so much integrity and talent. He left his native country, as we have seen, when very young, and never lost the charm which one's native village imparts to the mind. He never forgot the language of his country, nor the peculiar *patois* of Codognan; but, from the hour of his arrival on our shores, he considered the United States as his own adopted beloved country, the place of his life and death, and the scene of his grave. He visited his native land but a few years before his decease, and returned, not loving France less, but America more. Such men are at once the pillars and the ornaments of the country in which they live, which is enriched even by their dust yet lying in its midst.

"Although Judge Bouvier was by birth a Frenchman; and, according to our arrangement, should be ranked among foreign writers in America, we deem it not improper, for several reasons, to introduce him here. He went to the United States at an early age, but was not at first designed for the law. His mind, however, was peculiarly adapted to the legal profession, and he became an eminent Judge. His two books, "The Institutes of American Law," and "Dictionary of Law," are among the best works of their kind, and are so considered in Europe. The celebrated German jurist, Mettermeyer, recommends them to European lawyers, as the books they will have to look up to as the great authorities on American practice; and their wide circulation in the United States, and extensive use there, give them a position equal to the works of the ablest American jurists, among whom Judge Bouvier may justly be classed."\*

\* From Trübner's Bibliographical Guide, London, 1859.

## WILLIAM BRADFORD.

WILLIAM BRADFORD, the first printer in Pennsylvania, was the son of William and Anne Bradford, of Leicester, England, at which place he was born, in 1658. Being a Quaker, he emigrated to Pennsylvania, in 1682, and landed, where Philadelphia was afterwards laid out, before a house was built. He served his apprenticeship in London, with Andrew Sowles, Printer, in Grace Church Street, and married his daughter Elizabeth. Andrew Sowles was the intimate friend of George Fox, the founder of the English sect of Quakers.

The first work printed by Bradford, in Philadelphia, which has reached the present day, with a date, is "An Almanack for the Year of the Christian Account, 1687, by Daniel Leeds, Student in Agriculture; Printed and Sold by William Bradford, *pro anno* 1687."\*

In the year 1692, much contention prevailed among the Quakers in Philadelphia, and Bradford took an active part in the quarrel. George Keith, by birth a Scotchman, a man of good abilities and well educated, was Surveyor-General in New Jersey, and the Society of Friends in this city employed him, in 1689, as the superintendent of their school. Keith, having attended to this duty nearly two years, became a public speaker in their religious assemblies; but being, as the Quakers asserted, of a turbulent and overbearing spirit, he gave them much trouble. They forbade him speaking as a teacher, or minister in their meetings. This and some other irritating circumstances, caused a division among the Friends, and the parties were violently hostile to each other. Bradford was of the party which was attached to Keith, and supported him; their opponents were the majority. Among them

\* On the authority of H. Stevens, Esq., the bibliographer, he informs (a gentleman now in New York,—Mr. Menzies),—that he has the full title of a book printed by William Bradford. It is a small 4to. tract, of four or six leaves, printed in 1686. Mr. Stevens has not yet given a collation of it; he is probably reserving it for his work on "American Bibliography."



were Lieutenant-Governor Lloyd, and most of the Quaker magistrates. Keith and Thomas Budd wrote against the majority; and Bradford published their writings. Keith was condemned in the city meetings; but he appealed to the general meeting of the Friends; and, in order that his case might be generally known and understood, he wrote an address to the Quakers, which he caused to be printed, and copies of it to be dispersed among the Friends, previous to their general meeting. This conduct was highly resented by his opponents, the address was denominated seditious, and Bradford was arrested and imprisoned for printing it. The Sheriff seized a form containing four quarto pages of the types of the address; he also took into his custody a quantity of paper, and a number of books, which were in Bradford's shop, with all the copies of the address which he could find. The civil authorities took up the business; and, as Keith and Bradford state the facts, they who persecuted them in the religious assemblies, condemned and imprisoned them by civil process,—the judges of the courts being the leading characters in the meetings. Several of Keith's party were apprehended, and imprisoned with Bradford, and, among them, Thomas Budd and John MacComb; the offence of the latter consisted in his having two copies of the address, which he gave to two friends, in compliance with their request.

The day after the imprisonment of Bradford and his friends, a "private sessions," as it was called, of the County Court was holden by six justices, all Quakers, who, to put a better complexion on their proceedings, requested the attendance of two magistrates who were not Quakers. This court assembled, it seems, for the purpose of convicting Keith, Budd, and their connections of seditious conduct, and of condemning them without a hearing; but the two magistrates, who were not Quakers, reprobated the measure, and refused to have any concern in it, declaring that the whole transaction was a mere dispute among the Quakers, respecting their religion, in which the government had no concern. They, however, advised that Keith, and others accused, should be sent for and allowed to defend themselves; and affirmed that, if anything like sedition appeared in their practice, they would join heart and hand in their prosecution. To this the Quaker magistrates would not consent, and the others in consequence left the court. The court

then proceeded in their work ; and, as they judged George Keith in 'their spiritual court, without any hearing or trial, so, in like manner, they prosecuted him in their temporal court without any hearing. One of the judges declared, that the court could judge of matter of fact without evidence ; and therefore, without delay, proclaimed George Keith, by the common crier in the market-place, a seditious person, and an enemy to the King and Queen's government.

Bradford and MacComb, who had been imprisoned, appeared at this court, and requested that they might be brought to trial ; pleading, that it was very injurious to them and their families to remain in confinement. They claimed, as free-born English subjects, the rights secured by Magna Charta, among which was the prompt administration of justice ; and Bradford, in particular, desired that his trial might then take place, " because, not only his person was restrained, but his working-tools, and the paper and books from his shop, were taken from him, and without these he could not work and maintain his family." The trial was put over to the next term.

The only offence which appeared against MacComb, was his joining with Keith and his party, and disposing of two copies of Keith's printed address to his Quaker brethren. For this he was not only imprisoned, but also deprived, by Lieutenant-Governor Lloyd, of a license to keep an ordinary, or house of public entertainment, for which he had, a few months before his confinement, paid the Lieutenant-Governor twelve pieces of eight, or three pounds twelve shillings of the then currency.

At the next sessions of the court, on the 6th of the following December, Bradford was placed at the bar. The presentment was read, the substance of which was, that the ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth articles of the pamphlet called " An Appeal," had a tendency to weaken the hands of the magistrates, and that William Bradford was the printer of that seditious paper. Bradford pleaded not guilty ; a trial was had, and the jury not being able to agree after being together more than forty-eight hours, the court discharged them.

It is remarkable that, on this trial, when one of the Quaker justices who tried him, instructed the jury " to find only whether

William Bradford printed the pamphlet called ‘An Appeal;’ and that whether the pamphlet was seditious, and whether it tended to the weakening of the hands of the magistrates, was a matter of law for the determination of the court, with which the jury were not to meddle,” Bradford stoutly maintained that “the instruction of the court was wrong; that the printing of the pamphlet was not the only fact which the jury were to find; that they were to find also, whether the pamphlet was seditious, and whether it tended to the weakening of the hands of the magistrates; *for the jury, in criminal trials, are judges of the law as well as of the matter of fact;*” the very point which subsequently awakened intense interest in England on the trial of Wilkes.

Next court being come, Bradford attended, and desired to know “if the court would let him have his utensils, and discharge him?”

*Justice Cook.* “Thou shalt not have thy goods until released by law.”

*Bradford.* “The law will not release them unless executed.”

*Justice Cook.* “If thou wilt request a trial, thou may have it.”

Whereupon Bradford queried, “whether it be, according to law, to seize men’s goods, and imprison their persons, and to detain them, under the terror of a gaol, one six months after another, and not bring them to trial unless requested by the imprisoned? whether, when a jury is sworn to well and truly try, and true deliverance make between the proprietor and prisoner, it is not illegal to absolve them from their oaths, dismiss them, and put the cause to trial to another jury?”

Soon after this session Bradford was, by some means, released from his confinement.

It is said that, on the examination of the “frame,” the jury, not being acquainted with reading backwards, attempted to raise it from the plank on which it was placed, and to put it in a more favorable situation for inspection; and that one of them, assisting with his cane, pushed against the bottom of the types, as the form was placed perpendicularly, when, like magic, this evidence against Bradford instantly vanished, the types fell from the “frame,” or “chase,” as it is termed by printers, formed a confused heap, and prevented further investigation. Bradford, having incurred the displeasure of the dominant party in Pennsylvania, and receiving

encouragement to settle in New York, in 1693, removed to that city; but it is supposed he had a concern in the press, which was continued in Philadelphia.

In 1693, he set up a press in New York, and was appointed printer to the Government. The first book from his press was a small folio volume of the laws of the colony, bearing the date of 1693.\* In the imprint he styles himself "Printer to their Majesties," and directs to his printing house, "at the Sign of the Bible." There is a pamphlet, printed in New York, in 1711, by "William and Andrew Bradford," from which it appears that, at that time, there was some connection in business between Bradford and his son Andrew; but this concern could have been only for a year or two, for Andrew, in 1712, removed to Philadelphia. Franklin mentions that, when he first visited New York, about 1723, William Bradford was a printer, and, it appears, the only printer in the city. Franklin applied to him for work; Bradford, having but little business, could not employ him; but he recommended him to his son, who then printed in Philadelphia, and Franklin accordingly went there.

Bradford continued to print for the Government of New York, and, during thirty years, was the only printer in that province. He was also, during the time he was printer to the Government of New York, printer to the Government of New Jersey. On the 16th of October, 1725, he began the publication of the first newspaper printed in New York. He had two sons, Andrew and William, and a daughter; both sons were brought up to printing. Andrew, who was named after his grandfather, Andrew Sowles, printer, in London, settled in Philadelphia. William, not enjoying health on land, soon after he became of age, adopted the life of a seaman. Tacey, his daughter, who was named after her grandmother, the wife of Andrew Sowles, was married to Mr. Hyat, who was, for several years, Sheriff of Philadelphia County. Bradford continued his residence in the City of New York, and enjoyed a long life, without experiencing sickness, or the usual infirmities of

\* In the possession of Mr. Menzies, of New York, is a proclamation, printed in New York, in 1692, and which is said to be the first printed by Bradford. *Collation*. "A proclamation being a warning to the people to erect a beacon, to be fixed as a signal on the approach of the French fleet, then expected as an invading force, and for all to hold themselves in readiness. Printed by Wm. Bradford, at New York, Printer to their Majesties, 1692."



age. Several years before his death he retired from business, and lived with his son William, in Hanover Square. As early as 1728, he owned a paper mill at Elizabethtown, New Jersey. When this mill was built, cannot now be determined, but, it is believed, that it was the first paper mill that was erected in New Jersey; and, it is not altogether improbable, that it was the first built in British America, with the exception of one established by Mr. Bradford on the Wissahickon Creek, near Philadelphia, before his removal to New York.

On the morning of the day which closed his life he walked over a great part of the City of New York. He died May 22d, 1752, aged ninety-four years.\* The "New York Gazette," which announced his death on the Monday following, mentions, "that he came to America seventy years ago, was printer to the Government of New York upwards of fifty years, and was a man of great sobriety and industry, a real friend to the poor and needy, and kind and affable to all. His temperance was exceedingly conspicuous; and he was almost a stranger to sickness all his life. He had left off business several years past, and, being quite worn out with old age and labor, his lamp of life went out for want of oil."

Mr. Bradford was, for several years, a member of the Vestry of Trinity Church, in the City of New York. In the yard of that Church, near to the north wall of the Church, his body lies interred, and his tombstone may be there seen to this day, commemorating that "he came to America in 1682, before the City of Philadelphia was laid out."

## THOMAS BRADFORD, LL.D.

THOMAS BRADFORD, LL.D., the son of Thomas Bradford, was born in the City of Philadelphia, on the 11th day of September, A.D. 1781. He was descended from one of the oldest and most respectable families of his native city. His ancestor, William Bradford, the great-grandfather of his father, was the son of Wil-

\* The tombstone, in Trinity Church-yard, New York, states him to have been ninety-two years old, not ninety-four. Also, he died May 23d, not 22d.



liam and Ann Bradford, of Leicester, England, at which place he was born. He married Elizabeth, the daughter of Andrew Sowles, of London, the intimate friend of George Fox, the founder of the English sect of Quakers; and, with her, shortly after their marriage, was among the first emigrants from England to Pennsylvania in 1682, and landed at the spot where Philadelphia was soon after laid out, before a house was built. His descendants, for four generations prior to the birth of the subject of this sketch, were amongst the most useful and esteemed citizens of Philadelphia. The paternal grandfather, and father of Mr. Bradford, were in active service, as officers of the American army, throughout the Revolution; the former, besides distinguished services in other fields, leading one of the Philadelphia regiments, as its Colonel, at the battle of Princeton, and, honored with the special confidence of Washington, acting as Military Commandant of the City of Philadelphia, before its occupation by the British: the latter, serving, throughout the war, as Deputy Commissary-General of Prisoners, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. His sole paternal uncle was the Hon. William Bradford, who, after filling, in quick succession, the offices of Attorney-General of Pennsylvania, Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, and Attorney-General of the United States, under the first presidency of Washington, died without issue, in the midst of his arduous and responsible labors as Attorney-General of the United States, in 1794, at the early age of thirty-nine years. The ancestors of Mr. Bradford had, from their first emigration to Pennsylvania, in an unbroken line, been printers and conductors of a newspaper. They had successively, from the year 1719, during an entire century, published and conducted, in the City of Philadelphia, in consecutive order, "The American Weekly Mercury," "The Pennsylvania Journal," and "The True American." The last named newspaper was merged, by sale, about the year 1819, in "The United States Gazette," now published in union with "The North American."

Mr. Bradford was the youngest of three sons of his father, who ardently desired that all his sons should adopt his own calling, of printer and editor. Mr. Bradford was therefore summoned, on the close of the junior term, from his studies, in the collegiate department of the University of Pennsylvania, at the early age of

fifteen years, to take a place in the printing office of his father, as a learner of the art of printing. Cheerfully obeying his father, Mr. Bradford repressed his own strong inclination for the study of the law, entered his father's printing office, and spent three years of his life in an earnest endeavor to fulfil his father's wishes. He became a very skilful compositor, and, for some time, materially assisted his father in the publication of his newspaper, "The Pennsylvania Journal." Finding himself unable to conquer his preference for the profession of the law, at the age of eighteen, he earnestly sought and obtained the permission of his father to abandon the business of printing and engage in legal studies. He entered the office of William Todd, Esq., at that time a lawyer of eminence and extensive practice in Philadelphia, and commenced the study of the law in the fall of 1799: he was regularly admitted to the bar of Philadelphia, in the Court of Common Pleas, on the 18th day of October, 1802. In May, 1805, he married Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Vincent Lockerman, Esq., of Dover, in the State of Delaware, who died before him, April 8th, 1842, and by whom he had, surviving him, four sons and one daughter. Mr. Bradford soon obtained a large and lucrative business, which he enjoyed until his retirement from practice, a short time before his death. At the period of his retirement, he could point, among his clients, to men whose legal business he had transacted, without intermission, for nearly forty-eight years. He never failed to retain a confidence once acquired by him.

In the winter of 1842, John Tyler, then President of the United States, nominated Mr. Bradford to the Senate of the United States, for the honorable station of Judge of the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, made vacant by the death of the Hon. Joseph Hopkinson. The nomination was received with great favor by both the press and the people. Contrary, however, to all expectations, the Senate of the United States refused to confirm the nomination. The rejection was understood to be exclusively on political grounds, and to be occasioned by the circumstance that Mr. Bradford had, in a most decided and public manner, but a short time before, sustained the veto by President Tyler of the bill proposing a re-charter of the Bank of the United States, and had withdrawn from his former

connection with Henry Clay and his political friends, then constituting a large majority of the Senate of the United States. So much importance was attached by the majority of the Senate to Mr. Bradford's opposition to a re-charter of the Bank of the United States, that it was deemed necessary, by the rejection of his nomination, to mark their disapprobation of his change of political communion, and to lessen, in some measure, the influence thereof upon the public mind. That rejection did not disturb the customary serenity of Mr. Bradford's mind; but there followed immediately upon it the illness and death of his exemplary and affectionate wife, the close companion of his life's pilgrimage for nearly thirty-seven years. Beneath the pressure of that heavy affliction his loving spirit bowed, and his bodily health failed. From that shock he never wholly recovered; and, in the year 1843, aware of his need of assistance, he invited his eldest son, Vincent L. Bradford, Esq., at that time engaged in the practice of the law in the State of Michigan, to return to Philadelphia, where he had formerly practised, and become his partner in business. His son complied with his request, and, in the winter of 1843-4, formed with him the professional firm of Thomas & Vincent L. Bradford, which continued in existence until the spring of 1850. Mr. Bradford, not long after the dissolution of that connection, yielded to the claims of advanced age and feeble health, and retired from practice. A short time before such retirement, Jefferson College, in the State of Pennsylvania, conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

During his professional life of nearly half a century, Mr. Bradford was not only well known to his fellow-citizens as an upright, sound, and able lawyer, but also as a philanthropist and Christian. His works of love and piety abounded, accompanied him through life, and follow him, as he now rests from his labors. While yet a very young man, he entered, with his whole heart, upon the work of educating the neglected and ignorant poor. He was one of the founders of the Philadelphia Charity School, situate on Walnut Street, between Sixth and Seventh Streets, in Philadelphia, and was, for a long term of years, its President. As early as the year 1818, if not earlier, he associated himself with the late Francis Markoe, Esq., then of Philadelphia, and subsequently of the city

of New York, in the unobtrusive work of gathering, in a small frame school-house, situate on the east side of Juniper Street, south of Walnut Street, on the evening of every Sunday, for several winters, what, in after years, was termed a "ragged school;" which they themselves taught and instructed, not only in letters, but also in Christianity.

In the year 1813, Mr. Bradford had publicly connected himself, as a professing member, with the Second Presbyterian Church of the city of Philadelphia, of which his paternal grandfather was one of the founders, and in which, while an infant, he had been baptized and, under the watchful care of a pious mother, had been religiously trained. From that period Mr. Bradford became a devoted and active Christian, living by faith rather than by sight. Becoming greatly attached to the ministry of the Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, upon the resignation, by that gentleman, of his pastoral charge of the Second Presbyterian Church, as associate minister thereof, about the year 1818, Mr. Bradford, with a number of his fellow-members, withdrew from the Second Presbyterian Church, and followed Mr. Skinner to the Fifth Presbyterian Church, of which Mr. Skinner had been chosen pastor. Shortly afterwards, he was made an elder of that church, and continued in such eldership until he resumed his membership in his mother church, about the year 1838. During the twenty years in which he exercised the office of ruling elder in the Fifth Presbyterian Church, Mr. Bradford occupied a very prominent position, and exerted a very marked influence in ecclesiastical affairs. He was frequently a Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, before its division, and, always useful and distinguished in that capacity, was honored by that body with repeated marks of its respect and confidence. He was, for several years, a Director in the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and a member of the Board of Publication of the Presbyterian Church. He also occupied, for many years and until his death, the important station of a Trustee of the Old School Presbyterian Church, to which he had been elected several years before the division of the General Assembly.

Nor was Mr. Bradford's religious activity confined to his own denomination. He was long a zealous corporate member of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, which



embraces Christians of every religious denomination in the United States, holding the same fundamental principles of religious faith. During a rural residence of several successive summers, in the village of Hamilton (now part of the consolidated city of Philadelphia), beginning with the summer of 1817, and ending with the summer of 1822, Mr. Bradford conducted public worship, either once or twice on every Sunday, in the academy of that village, and was thereby instrumental in the formation of two churches, of different denominations, now existing in that village. As far back as the year 1815, and perhaps earlier, Mr. Bradford's attention was drawn to the condition of the public prisons in this country, and to the evils attendant upon the indiscriminate association, night and day, of the prisoners contained in them. He saw that, by such association, the young convict was soon educated into the hardened and irreclaimable offender, and became the fit denizen for life, of a prison. He therefore proposed the principle of solitary confinement, accompanied with moral and religious instruction, as the remedy for these evils, and labored to procure its adoption by the Legislature of Pennsylvania. His proposition, before it was practically applied, was materially improved by the introduction of labor, in connection with solitary confinement and religious instruction, at the instance of others associated with him, at an early day, in carrying out the great philanthropic conception.

After Mr. Bradford and his associates had succeeded in obtaining a legislative sanction of the new system, since known as the Pennsylvania System, a Board of Commissioners was organized for the erection of the Eastern Penitentiary at Cherry Hill, and he was appointed, by the Governor, a member of that Board. After the erection of the Cherry Hill Penitentiary, Mr. Bradford was, for many consecutive terms, and until his death, appointed, by the Supreme Court, a member of its Board of Inspectors. Over that Board he presided for many years; and the interests of that institution were, of all his philanthropic labors, nearest to his heart, to the last. Mr. Bradford earnestly labored, for nearly forty years, in the cause of prison discipline; and, in that time, acquired a vast amount of practical and well-digested experience on that subject. The result of that experience was a conviction which he always expressed with great earnestness, that the Gospel of Christ,



accompanied by the power of the Holy Spirit, and nothing else, can animate to holy life and action the spiritual nature of the criminal "dead in trespass and sin," and thus accomplish the great desideratum of his reformation. He was also clearly of the opinion that, unaided by Christian instruction and influence, solitary confinement, or any other penitentiary discipline, was tyrannical, cruel, and hardening in its effects upon the offender. At the time of his death, Mr. Bradford was one of the oldest members of the Philadelphia Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons; and was, for a number of years prior to the transfer of prisoners from the Penitentiary at the southeast corner of Walnut and Sixth Streets, to the new Penitentiary at Cherry Hill, a member of the Board of Inspectors of the old Penitentiary.

Mr. Bradford's devotion to the spiritual interests of prisoners, during the thirty-eight years of his official intercourse with them, was most intense and unremitted. He habitually visited them twice a week, and sometimes oftener, for the purpose of religious instruction; and, for many years, spent a part of almost every Sunday in conducting Sunday-School and public worship among them. Few of them, in their solitary cells, heard of his death with a dry eye, and without feeling that a good man and the prisoner's friend had gone to his rest.

Mr. Bradford departed this life, in the seventy-first year of his age, on the 25th day of October, A.D. 1851, at his residence in the city of Philadelphia, loved and honored by all who knew him, and in peace with God and his fellow-man. In person, Mr. Bradford was large and commanding. His countenance was open, intelligent, and benevolent. His intellect was vigorous, logical, and discriminating. His spiritual nature was loving and childlike in its religious humility and faith. His whole character, physical, mental, and spiritual, was firm, prudent, patient, upright, and self-denying. These features of character, combined with great philanthropy and piety, made him, through life, a reliable, useful, kind, and conscientious man, beloved and venerated in the family, in the church, at the bar, and in all the walks of private and public life.

## THOMAS BRADFORD.

THOMAS BRADFORD, the eldest son of Colonel William Bradford, was born in the City of Philadelphia, on the 4th day of May, 1745. He was the great grandson of William Bradford, the first printer to the respective Governments of the Provinces of Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey. His mother was daughter of Thomas Budd, who sided with George Keith and the first William Bradford in their opposition to Governor Lloyd and his party, in the noted quarrel among the Quakers in 1692. Budd, at that time, was arrested and imprisoned with the aforementioned William Bradford, for writing and publishing against the prevailing party of their Quaker brethren. Mr. Bradford's maternal ancestors, the Budds, were among the earliest and wealthiest proprietors of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. He was named Thomas after his maternal grandfather. He was, for several years, in the college at Philadelphia; but, in 1762, his father took him from that institution, placed him in his printing office, and, in 1766, received him as a partner in business. Their printing and publishing office was then at the southwest corner of Front and Market Streets. Colonel William Bradford, his father, had commenced, December 2d, 1742, the publication of a newspaper, called the "Pennsylvania Journal and Weekly Advertiser," and, at the time of associating his son Thomas with him in business, still published it. Thenceforward, until the death of Colonel William Bradford, in 1791, "the Pennsylvania Journal" was printed and published by the said firm of William and Thomas Bradford. After the death of his father, its publication was continued by Thomas, as the surviving partner, until 1801, when he finally discontinued it, and published the "True American," a daily paper, in its stead. The "Pennsylvania Journal" was devoted to the cause of the country, from the commencement of the difficulties with Great Britain, in 1765, and was published throughout the American Revolution, with the exception of the period of the occupation of Philadelphia by the British army, when its publication was necessarily suspended. It bore, from July,

1774, to October, 1775, the period of the agitation of the question of an union among the American Colonies, for the purpose of resisting the aggressions of the mother country, a device of a divided snake, with the motto, "Unite or Die."

On the 23d day of November, 1768, Mr. Bradford married Mary, the eldest daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Fisher, of Philadelphia. With this lady he lived, in great domestic felicity, until her death in November, 1805, and had by her three sons, viz., Samuel F. Bradford, William Bradford, and Thomas Bradford, and three daughters, viz., Elizabeth, intermarried with James Darrach, Mary, intermarried with William Flintham, and Susan, intermarried with Jacob Ritter, who all survived their mother. He acquired, by his wife, the old family mansion No. 8 South Front Street, which had formerly belonged to his grand-uncle, Andrew Bradford, and had been alienated by his widow in 1746, and in it he continued to reside until he sold it, about the year 1831. Mr. Bradford took an early and decided stand in behalf of his country in her difficulties with Great Britain. He was one of the first to resist the Stamp Act, and was the principal agent in getting signed the solemn Agreement, or League, entered into by the merchants and traders of Pennsylvania and Delaware, in 1765, to discontinue all commercial intercourse with the mother country, until the repeal of the obnoxious Act. When the war of the Revolution broke out, Mr. Bradford was chosen captain of one of the militia companies of Philadelphia, and subsequently filled the post and discharged the duties of Deputy Commissary-General of Prisoners in the American army, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. He was in active service at Brandywine, Trenton, Princeton, Germantown, and Valley Forge, and elsewhere, throughout the Revolution. He was elected printer to the Continental Congress, and continued to act in that capacity for several years. About the year 1801, Mr. Bradford commenced the publication, at No. 8 South Front Street, of a daily paper, called "The True American," which he continued to publish until its sale, about the year 1819. Shortly after the establishment of "The True American," Mr. Bradford associated with him in his business his second son William Bradford. By the death, in 1795, of his younger brother, the Hon. William Bradford, At-

torney-General of the United States, without issue and intestate, Mr. Bradford succeeded, as heir-at-law, to the largest portion of his estate.

While his brother was pursuing his legal studies, and until he obtained a competent practice,—after his admission to the bar,—Mr. Bradford had supplied the place of his father, whose fortune and health had been shattered by his Revolutionary service. He had constantly assisted his brother, with his counsel and pecuniary means, in this dependent period of his life; so that it seemed but a proper recompense that, at his brother's death, he should be enriched by his brother's wealth. It took some years to realize the unproductive real estate of his brother, but when that was accomplished, about the year 1819, Mr. Bradford sold his newspaper, the "True American," which became merged in the "United States Gazette," and retired from business. He still found enough to occupy his active mind and energetic body, in the care of a large landed estate, lying in different counties of Western Pennsylvania, and amounting to nearly thirty thousand acres of land.

In the seventy-sixth year of his age he visited, in the summer season, on horseback, the city of Pittsburg, the Falls of Beaver, in Beaver County, and nearly every tract of land he owned, although situate in more than a dozen of the western counties of Pennsylvania, and returned in vigorous health. During this journey he laid out, on a tract of land owned by him, the now flourishing town of New Brighton, at the Falls of Beaver, in Beaver County, Pennsylvania, which land, embracing the Falls of Beaver, he had purchased shortly after the Revolution.

Mr. Bradford lived in the full possession of all his faculties, and in the enjoyment of a green old age, surrounded by numerous descendants, unto the third generation after him included, until about six months before his death. He then suddenly lost his eyesight. Under that severe affliction his bodily strength succumbed; and, in his ninety-fourth year, he died on the 7th day of May, A. D. 1838, at the residence of his son, Thomas Bradford, Esq., No. 5 Sansom Street, in the city of Philadelphia. At the time of his death, he was the oldest living member of the American Philosophical Society, of which he was one of the founders. Mr. Brad-



ford was a man of great energy, firmness, intelligence, probity, and benevolence of character, and was esteemed in all the relations of life.

## ANDREW BRADFORD.

ANDREW BRADFORD was the younger son of William Bradford, who first printed in Pennsylvania. He was born in Philadelphia, in the year 1686, went to New York with his father, and of him learned the art of printing. When his apprenticeship ended, he was for one year the partner of his father. About the year 1712, he returned to Philadelphia; and, from that time to 1723, he was the only printer in the colony of Pennsylvania. His printing-house was in "Second Street, at the sign of the Bible." He sold pamphlets and school-books, and executed common binding. He printed for the government, and published polemical pamphlets; which, during many years, afforded employment for the press, wherever it was established. In 1732, he was Postmaster; and, in 1735, became a considerable dealer in books and stationery.

In December, 1719, Andrew Bradford published the first newspaper printed in Pennsylvania, entitled "The American Mercury." John Copson appears to have been a partner with Bradford, in this publication, for about two years. In 1739, his foster-son, William, was his partner; this connection lasted about eleven months, and ended in 1740.

When Franklin made his first visit to Philadelphia, in 1723, a second printing-house was opening by Keimer. Franklin, although a journeyman in this rival printing-house, boarded some time with Bradford. It is evident, from Franklin's statement, that Bradford was not merely civil, he was friendly to this young stranger; and, although he had no employment for him, yet he made him welcome to his house, "till something better should offer." When mentioning Bradford and his rival Keimer, Franklin observes, they were both "destitute of every qualification necessary to their profession."

In 1738, Andrew Bradford purchased the house, now No. 8 South Front Street, which, until about 1830, was in possession of



the family, and occupied as a printing-house by his grand-nephew, Thomas Bradford. Bradford increased his property, and became easy in his circumstances. He was Postmaster of Philadelphia, and retained the office for several years after Franklin opened a third printing-house in Philadelphia.

Mr. Bradford possessed, in a considerable degree, the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. He was chosen one of the Common Council of the city, and held this office at the time of his death. In 1741, he published a periodical work, entitled "The American Magazine; or, Monthly View of the Political State of the British Colonies." This work was soon discontinued. His wife died in December, 1739; and, in 1740, he married Cornelia Smith, a native of New York, who was related to his father's second wife. He died November 23d, 1742, aged about fifty-six years, and was buried in Christ Church burying-ground. On this occasion his paper, "The American Mercury," appeared in mourning six weeks.

### COLONEL WILLIAM BRADFORD.

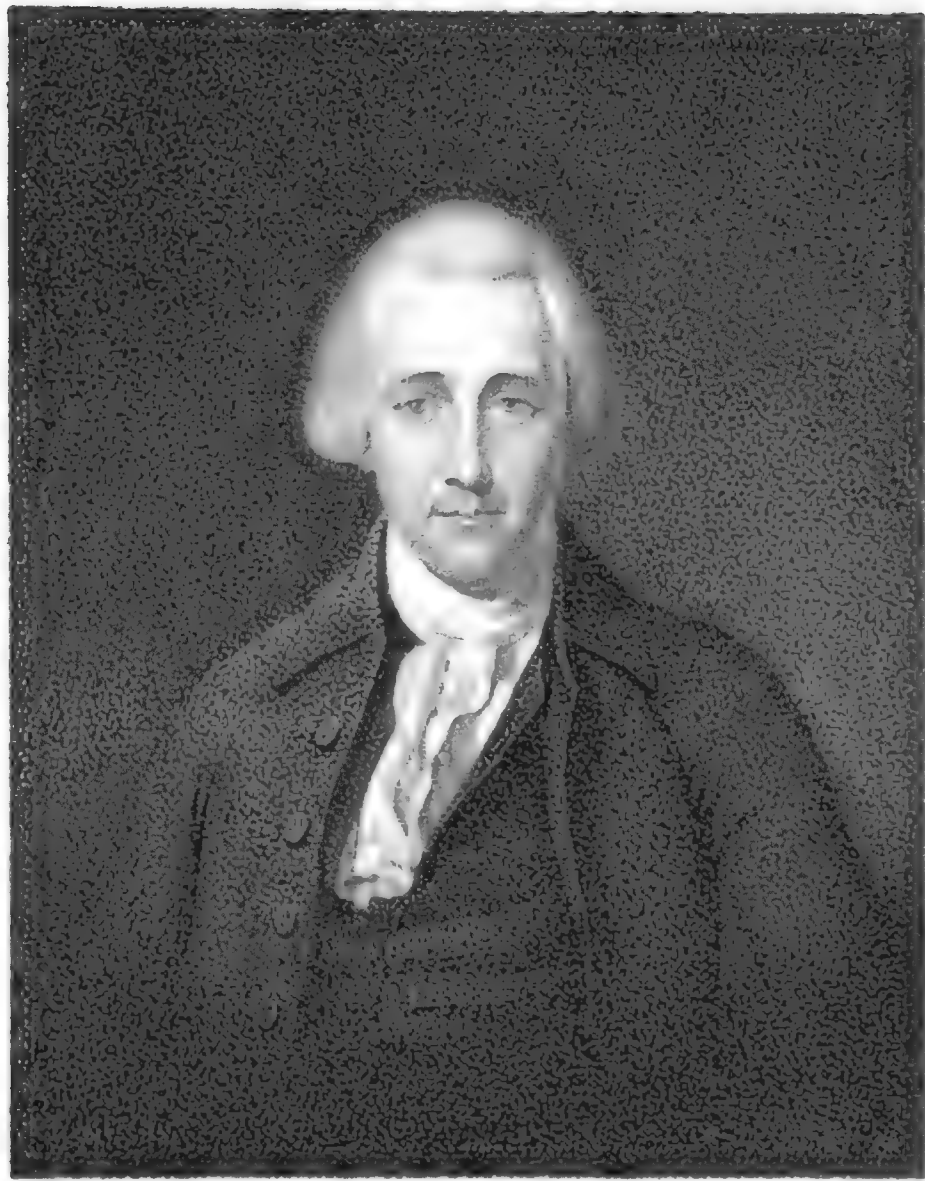
COLONEL WILLIAM BRADFORD was the son of William Bradford, Jr., and grandson of the first William Bradford, who printed in Philadelphia. He was born in New York, in 1719. When very young, his uncle, Andrew Bradford, who had no children, adopted and educated him as his son and heir, and instructed him in the art of printing. When he was about nineteen years of age, his affectionate aunt, the wife of Andrew, died; and, some time after, his uncle Andrew married Cornelia Smith, of New York. She had an adopted niece, whom she was desirous that William Bradford, the adopted nephew of her husband, should marry when he became of age. William's affections being engaged by another object, the plan was frustrated; and, in consequence, she imbibed a settled prejudice against him, and did not attempt to conceal it. She treated him unkindly, and finally he was obliged to leave the house of his uncle. She prevailed on her husband to revoke the will which he had made in favor of William, and to make one in her own favor.

William, when about twenty years of age, became the partner of Andrew ; but the wife caused this partnership to be dissolved, after it had continued one year. It began in December, 1739, and ended in December, 1740. In 1741, William Bradford went to England, visited his relations there, returned in 1742, with printing materials and a collection of books, and began business on the west side of Second Street, between Market and Chestnut Streets. In December, 1742, he commenced the publication of a newspaper, called the "Pennsylvania Journal," which was continued, by him and his successors, until after the year 1800. In 1743, he removed to the southeast corner of Second Street and Black-Horse Alley, where, at the sign of "The Bible," he printed and sold books. In 1748, he was chosen a lieutenant of a militia company, and, in 1756, was made a captain. In 1754, Bradford removed to the corner of Market and Front Streets, and there opened a house for the convenience of the commercial part of the community, which was called "The London Coffee-House." In 1762, he opened, in company with a Mr. Kydd, a marine insurance office, where much business was done. In 1766, he took his son Thomas as a partner in the printing business. Their firm was William & Thomas Bradford.

Bradford was a warm advocate for, and a staunch defender of the rights of his country. He was among the first in the city to oppose the British Stamp Act, in 1765, and he was equally hostile to the succeeding offensive measures of the British ministry. He took arms in an early stage of the Revolutionary War ; and, although he had reached the age at which the law exempts men from military service, he encountered the fatigues of a winter campaign, and did duty, as a major of one of the Philadelphia regiments, in the memorable battle of Trenton. He shared the honors of the day at Princeton, was wounded, and returned colonel of the regiment of which he went out major. He was at Fort Mifflin when it was attacked by the Hessians, and in several other engagements. A few days before the British troops took possession of Philadelphia, Bradford was intrusted by Governor Wharton with the command of the city, and the superintendence of removing the stores. Having performed this duty, he left the city as the enemy was entering it, and repaired to Fort Mifflin, where he remained, until that fortress was evacuated. From that time, Bradford remained at Tren-

ton until the British army left Philadelphia, when he returned to the city and re-opened his printing-house and coffee-room; but the customs and manners of the citizens were changed, and he perceived that business had found new channels. He returned from the hazards of public service with a broken constitution and a shattered fortune. He soon lost his affectionate wife. Age advanced upon him with hasty steps, and a paralytic stroke warned him of his approaching dissolution. After a few more feeble attacks, he calmly yielded to the King of Terrors. Bradford literally complied with a resolve of the early revolutionists, "to risk his life and fortune for the preservation of the liberty of his country." After peace was established, he consoled himself, under his misfortunes, with the pleasant reflection that he had done all in his power to secure for his country a name among independent nations; and he frequently said to his children, "though I bequeath you no estate, I leave you in the enjoyment of liberty." In 1742, Bradford married Rachel, a daughter of Thomas Budd, who was imprisoned with the first William Bradford in 1692. He died September 25th, 1791, aged seventy-two. His body was interred in the grave-yard of the Second Presbyterian Church, on Arch Street between Fifth and Sixth Streets, in Philadelphia, and his obsequies were attended by a large number of citizens, and particularly by those who were the early and steady friends of the Revolution. He was a very respectable printer. Bradford left three sons and three daughters. His eldest son, Thomas, has been mentioned as the partner of his father; the second son, William, studied the law, became Attorney-General of the United States, and died August 23d, 1795; Schuyler, the third son, died in the East Indies. One of his daughters married Hon. Elisha Boudinot, of Newark, N. J.; a second married Joshua Wallace, of Burlington, N. J.; and a third married Captain Thomas Huston, who commanded the gun-boat flotilla in the Delaware during the Revolution.





*Edwin H.*

WILLIAM BRADFORD ESQ.<sup>R</sup>



## HON. WILLIAM BRADFORD.

WILLIAM BRADFORD, the second son of Colonel William Bradford and of Rachel Budd, his wife, was born at Philadelphia on the 14th of September, 1755. He early displayed that combination of moral purity and refinement with intellectual vigor, which gave peculiar lustre to his career. In the spring of 1769, he was entered at the College of Nassau Hall, Princeton, New Jersey, and, under the superintendence of its learned and able president, Dr. Witherspoon, pursued his studies with uncommon assiduity. He was particularly distinguished for the success with which he cultivated the elegancies of English composition, and the unremitting diligence with which he sought to form his pen and his speech after those classic models of British letters, which unite precision and force of thought with graceful ease of expression. He here formed an intimate friendship with Mr. Madison, then a student at the same institution; and, after their separation, they continued to correspond, with frequency and regularity, for several years. In the autumn of 1772, he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts, with one of the highest honors of his class; and, in 1775, became Master of Arts. For a year after the termination of the regular course of collegiate studies, he continued to read at Princeton, and found especial interest in attending the theological lectures of Dr. Witherspoon, celebrated for metaphysical acuteness and strong sense. He then began the study of law, at Philadelphia, in the office of the Hon. Edward Shippen, afterwards Chief Justice of Pennsylvania. His private journals during this period, which are yet preserved, exhibit an engaging picture of youthful energy and ambition. Laborious hours of devotion to Coke are relieved by essays, in close imitation of the Spectator, or by verses in the manner of Shenstone. From the earliest period, with instinctive comprehensiveness, he sought to unite all the graces of manner with the solid merits of understanding and learning. It was characteristic of the times that the pursuits of one whose views of eminence were limited to civil life, should have been diversified by a military service of

several years. In the summer of 1776, he entered the camp as a volunteer, and was soon after chosen major-of-brigade to General Robardeau. He was presently appointed to a captaincy in the Continental army, in the regiment of Colonel Hampton; and, on the 10th of April, 1777, by ballot in Congress, was elected Deputy Muster-Master-General, with the rank of Colonel, in the army of the United States.

He was with the army at headquarters at White Plains, Fredericksborough, and Raritan, during 1778; but, in the following year, the delicacy of his health rendered it necessary for him to leave the service. His resignation was presented to Congress on the 1st of April, 1779. He returned to his legal studies, and, in the course of 1779, was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. He fixed his residence, for a short time, at Yorktown, in Pennsylvania; but his talents had already attracted the public attention, and he remained but a short time in obscurity. While pursuing his legal studies, and before he obtained a competent practice at the bar, he was materially assisted by the counsel and means of his elder brother, Thomas Bradford, who, in consequence of the broken health and fortune of his father, Colonel William Bradford, shattered by hard service in the Revolution, assumed a parental relation towards him. In August, 1780, when only twenty-five years of age, and of but one year's standing at the bar, he was appointed by the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, Attorney-General of the State, succeeding Mr. Jonathan Dickinson Sergeant, in an office at that time, from political causes, peculiarly responsible and arduous. This appointment was owing chiefly to the unwearied exertions of his elder brother, Thomas Bradford, aided by the high opinion which had been conceived of his talents and acquirements by the Hon. Joseph Reed, President of the Council, a gentleman himself distinguished for various talents, and a superior judge of merit in others. After this appointment, "he advanced," says the late Mr. Rawle, who remembered his bright career with lively interest, "with a rapid progress, to an eminence of reputation which never was defaced by petty artifices of practice or ignoble associations of thought. His course was lofty as his mind was pure; his eloquence was of the best kind; his language was uniformly classical; his fancy

frequently interwove some of those graceful ornaments which delight when they are not too frequent, and when they do not interrupt the chain of argument." He shared the confidence of several successive administrations, and continued in this office for eleven years. In 1782, in conjunction with Joseph Reed, James Wilson, and Jonathan Dickinson Sergeant, he was appointed to represent and enforce the interests of Pennsylvania before the Commissioners appointed by Congress to adjudicate upon the controversy between that State and Connecticut, with regard to the Wyoming land titles. The Commissioners sat at Trenton during November and December, 1782, and their decision was in favor of Pennsylvania. In commemoration of his services on this and other occasions, the Legislature gave his name to a county of his native State.

In 1784, Mr. Bradford intermarried with Susan Vergereau Boudinot, only daughter of the Hon. Elias Boudinot, of New Jersey, who had been President of the Continental Congress and Commissary-General of Prisoners in the army of the United States during the war of the Revolution. This pure, gentle, and venerable lady, survived her husband until the year 1855, and died at a very advanced age, at her residence in Burlington, New Jersey.

On the 22d August, 1791, he was appointed by Governor Mifflin, one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, in the place of William Atlee, and accepted the appointment after much hesitation. In that honorable and useful position he remained several years, leaving behind him many monuments of judicial excellence. But the splendor of his abilities—the fame of his devotion to business, of his sound judgment, and of his stainless integrity, had attracted the regard of the great personage who then administered the national councils, and who had become personally well acquainted with him during the War of Independence; and, on January 28th, 1794, Mr. Bradford, having previously resigned the office of Judge, was commissioned by President Washington, Attorney-General of the United States. He was the second person appointed to that post under the Constitution, and succeeded Mr. Edmund Randolph, who was transferred to the office of Secretary of State. Mr. Bradford shared, in an especial and marked degree, the confidence and personal friendship of Wash-

ington, who respected a character kindred to his own in the purity of its purposes. In 1794, the resistance which had been made, in the western counties of Pennsylvania, to the enforcement of the laws laying duties upon spirits distilled within the United States, and upon stills, had proceeded to such an extent, that President Washington, on the 7th of August, issued his proclamation commanding the insurgents to disperse, and announcing that he had taken measures to call out the militia for the suppression of the insurrection. Before directing the advance of the army, however, he deemed it expedient to try once more the effect of conciliatory measures. On the 8th of August, Mr. Bradford, Mr. Jasper Yeates, and Mr. James Ross, were commissioned by the General Government to repair to the western counties of Pennsylvania, and to confer with the citizens in that region for the purpose of inducing them to submit peaceably to the laws, and of preventing the necessity of using coercion to enforce their execution. Conferences were held at Pittsburg between these Commissioners and committees of the insurgents; and after considerable intercourse, correspondence, and negotiation, the Commissioners of the United States reported to President Washington, on the 24th of September, that, in their opinion, the state of things in that part of the country was such, that there was no probability that the act "can at present be enforced by the usual course of civil authority, and that some more competent force is necessary to cause the laws to be duly executed, and to insure to the officers and well-disposed citizens that protection which it is the duty of government to afford." Upon the following day the President issued his proclamation, giving notice that a military force, adequate to the emergency, was already moving to the scene of disaffection. The correspondence and report on this occasion, in which the dignity of the Government was maintained, while every practicable conciliation was brought to bear with skill and temper, were the production chiefly of Mr. Bradford's pen.

The name of William Bradford will long be remembered in honorable connection with one of the most beneficial changes in the practice of modern society,—the amelioration of the penal code and the restriction of capital punishment. He early perceived the importance of that reformation to the interests of morality and



life, and defined, with acute and practical sagacity, the principles upon which the amending process should be conducted. In 1792, when the revision of the criminal laws, in especial reference to the question of capital punishment, was about to engage the attention of the Assembly of Pennsylvania, Mr. Bradford, who was known to have given particular consideration to the subject, was requested by Governor Mifflin to draw up a memorial upon the subject, in the nature of a report, for the use of the Legislature. He willingly complied; and his memoir was presented to the Governor on the 3d of December in that year. Arranging and distinguishing the various sorts of crime with the precision of an able lawyer, he investigated the circumstances and motives in which each offence usually has its origin; considered the probable operation of different punishments in the several cases; and, enforcing the conclusions of reason by an array of evidence drawn from extensive reading or supplied by professional observation, arrived at the conclusion "that, in all cases, except high treason and murder, the punishment of death may safely be abolished, and milder penalties advantageously introduced." The Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania expressed their sense of his labors, by ordering the essay to be placed on their journals; and, on the 22d of February, 1793, passed a resolution, "that for all offences (except murder of the first degree) which are made capital by the existing laws of Pennsylvania, the punishment shall be changed to imprisonment to hard labor, varying in duration and severity according to the degree of the crime."

In March, 1793, the memoir was published in an octavo volume, under the title of "An Inquiry how far the Punishment of Death is necessary in Pennsylvania, with Illustrations;" and was extensively studied and admired. He there asserted in a perspicuous manner, and enforced with great ability, principles and sentiments which have since become settled in legislation, but which then required the aids of learning, observation, and eloquence, to render them acceptable. "Although the world has seen a profusion of theory on the subject of the criminal law," he remarks in the preface, "it is to be regretted that so few writers have been solicitous to throw the light of experience upon it. To supply, in some measure, this defect,—to collect the scattered rays, which the



judicial history of our own and other countries affords, and to examine how far the maxims of philosophy abide the test of experiment,—have been the leading objects of this work.” This production contributed to the passage of the law of the 22d April, 1794, which enacted, as its first section, that “no crime whatsoever, hereafter committed (except murder of the first degree), shall be punished with death in the State of Pennsylvania.” In one of the notes to this inquiry he predicted, by an elegant allusion, that success in the efforts of speculative philosophy abroad which we have witnessed in our days. “The fermentation of the public mind in Europe, excited by greater objects,” he observes, “will prevent, for a time, any attention to this subordinate subject; but a reform in the government will, in the end, hasten that which is so much wanted in the criminal law. It is impossible that error can long resist the gentle but continued impression of reason. The stroke of truth on public prejudice will be finally irresistible. It resembles that of a grain of sand, falling on unannealed glass. Feeble as it seems to be, and slow and invisible as its operations are, no human power can prevent its effects, or preserve from destruction the object on which it falls.” In every department of penal discipline, Mr. Bradford’s guiding influence was felt; and to the interest and enlightenment early diffused by him, in connection with the subsequent conceptions and labors of his nephew, Thomas Bradford, Esq., the valuable distinction, since acquired by his native State, in regard to prison systems, is, to a considerable extent, to be ascribed. Exertions so fearless and disinterested attracted the applause of foreigners, and Mr. Bradford’s name became known in England as that of a reformer without turbulence, and a philanthropist free from vanity. In the midst of a career thus eminent and unsullied, in the perfection of genius and the earliest maturity of judgment, in the fulness of every hope which merit and virtue could hold forth, the life of this interesting man was suddenly terminated. During the summer of 1795, his residence was at Rose Hill, an estate belonging to his father-in-law, Dr. Boudinot, near Philadelphia; and the cabinet of General Washington was occupied, with unusual assiduity, in regard to the case of Mr. Randolph. The official duties of Mr. Bradford, engrossing all the day in the city, obliged him usually to return to Rose

Hill after the evening had set in. The exposure produced a bilious fever, which ended fatally on the 23d of August, 1795. According to his express desire he was buried by the side of his parents, in the burial-ground of the Second Presbyterian Church, on the north side of Arch Street, between Fifth and Sixth Streets, in the city of Philadelphia.

Mr. Bradford possessed a mild and amiable temper, and his genteel and unassuming manners were united with genius, eloquence, and taste. As a public speaker, he was persuasive and convincing. He understood mankind well, and knew how to place his arguments in the most striking point of light. His language was pure and sententious; and he so managed most of his forensic disputes as scarcely ever to displease his opponents, while he gave the utmost satisfaction to his clients. He possessed great firmness of opinion, yet was remarkable for his modesty and caution in delivering his opinions. Combining a quick and retentive memory and an excellent judgment, with great equanimity and steadiness in his conduct, and a pleasing deportment, he conciliated respect and affection. Towards his country he felt the sincerest attachment, and preferred her interests to every selfish consideration. His charities were secret, but extensive; and none in distress were ever known to leave him with discontent. His friendships were few, but very affectionate; and those who aided him in his first setting out in life, were never ungratefully forgotten. Though engaged constantly in public business, yet the concerns of this world did not make him regardless of the more important concerns of religion. He firmly believed the Christian system, for he had given it a thorough examination. By its incomparable rules he regulated his whole conduct, and on its promises he founded all his hopes of future happiness.

## JOSEPH BRIENTNALL.

MR. BRIENTNALL was a member of the "Junto" whom Franklin sketched in a few words: "A copier of deeds for the scribes,—a good-natured, friendly, middle-aged man; a great lover of poetry, reading all he could meet with, and writing some that was tolerable; very ingenious in making little knick-knackeries, and of sensible conversation."

He was at one time a writer of a paper with Franklin, entitled "The Busy Body," a small sheet, published in Philadelphia.

In November, 1731, he was Secretary of the Library Company of Philadelphia, and signed the first notices addressed to the Directors to meet "to take the bond of the treasurer for the faithful performance of his trust, and to consider of and appoint a proper time for the payment of the money subscribed, and other matters relating to the said library."

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## CHARLES BROCKDEN BROWN.

MR. BROWN was born in Philadelphia on the 17th January, 1771. His parents were of the sect called Quakers, and descended from the direct followers of the philanthropist, William Penn. Charles was the youngest but one of five sons, and by far the most feeble in constitution and diminutive in stature. He had conceived a prejudice, and perhaps a just one, against the practice of the law at our courts; and, to the great chagrin of the family, he abandoned the study without undergoing the necessary examination to be admitted to the Bar. Mr. Brown had received an education which qualified him for the profession which secured wealth free from the risks of commerce,—the profession from which proceeded our statesmen, legislators, and rulers; yet he preferred the toilsome occupation of book-making, from the pure love of literature, and a benevolent desire to benefit his fellow-creatures.

He had associated with several young men who formed schemes for literary improvement, and for discussing subjects in the way of debate. Dr. Milnor, of the Episcopal Church, then a student of law, was one; Joseph Bringhurst, of the Society of Friends, another; and a youth of uncommon talents and personal beauty, William Wilkins, who was cut off in the blossom of life, was, perhaps, the leader of the band, and the best beloved by Brockden. Brown became particularly attached to the association who, like himself, were impressed with the conviction of the propriety of exerting their faculties for the promotion of human happiness, and desirous of knowledge to be devoted to that purpose. He wished to become a teacher of truth, and he adopted the vehicle of novel writing as most likely to produce the effect he desired upon the greater number of his fellow-creatures.

The dialogue entitled "Alcium," was the first volume given to the public; and it was not until 1798 that he published his powerful and successful novel of "Wieland."

In the year 1799 Brown supported a monthly magazine (the first of the kind that he undertook), and was engaged in his "Arthur Mervyn," the scenes of which were suggested by those he had witnessed in Philadelphia in 1793, and the recent events of 1798 in New York. "Edgar Huntley" followed, and partook largely of his first composition of the same kind, "Sky-walk." It is full of incident and extraordinary adventure.

In 1800, appeared the second part of "Arthur Mervyn." The author has, in this work, fully expressed his conviction that he was to die early and by consumption.

In 1801, Brown published "Clara Howard;" in 1804, his last novel, "Jane Talbot," was published, first in London and immediately reprinted in America.

In 1804, Mr. Brown married Elizabeth Linn, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Linn, a Presbyterian clergyman of great popularity in New York. Miss Linn was a woman of taste and literary acquirements, and the marriage was a happy one. Brown was now, professionally, an author. No employment could be more congenial to the disposition, taste, and wishes of Charles Brockden Brown, than that in which he was now engaged. No situation more calculated for happiness—contentment. His wife, his

children, his parents, his brothers, and their children, were his riches and his world; but, like all worldly riches, they were soon to pass from him. Ever delicate, he became a victim to that cruel disease, consumption; and, after trying the usual prescription of travelling, which, as is frequently the case, only added both to mental and physical sufferings, he lingered until February, 1810, and then expired, with characteristic fortitude, in the bosom of his family, with full reliance upon the benevolence of his Creator.

To Mr. Brown his country is indebted both for the quantity and quality of his literary productions. It is said that his published writings would amount to twenty-four volumes.

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## ANDREW BROWN.

MR. BROWN once lived in Philadelphia, in Chestnut Street below Second Street, and was the editor of the "Federal Gazette." His wife and three children, Mary, George, and Elizabeth, perished in the flames of a dreadful fire, which occurred on the 27th of January, 1797. The wife and children were all committed to one common grave, in St. Paul's Church-yard. He lingered, in great agony, until February 4th, when he died, and was buried in the same grave, aged fifty-two. He was born in Ireland.

We copy the following obituary notice from the Bristol (Eng.) "Mirror." It recalls reminiscences, the recollection of which had almost faded from our memory:—

"Died, December 7th, at his residence, 42 Holford Square, Pentonville, of influenza, in his seventy-fifth year, Andrew Brown, Esq., son of the late Major Andrew Brown, of Philadelphia, United States.

"This gentleman, whose death we recorded in our obituary to-day, was well known to many of our older readers, having resided in this city from the year 1806 to 1826. Mr. Brown's early career was not unchequered by incidents. His father, who was a native of the north of Ireland, was educated at Trinity College, Dublin. About the year 1773, he went to America as an officer in



the British service, which he soon quitted and settled in Massachusetts. At the commencement of the Revolutionary War he joined the American army, in which he soon rose to the rank of Major, and behaved with distinction in the early battles of the war—Lexington, Bunker Hill, &c. He afterwards served under Generals Gates and Green, and commanded the garrison of Boston on the evacuation of that place by the British troops, in March, 1776. At the close of the war he was, like many other brave men, thrown upon the world by the depreciation of the government paper money; and, in 1788, he established, at Philadelphia, the ‘Federal Gazette,’ to which Dr. Franklin, Messrs. Hamilton, Adams, and most of the distinguished statesmen of America, were contributors; the present Constitution of the United States being then the subject of warm discussion.

“Major Brown carried on his newspaper with great spirit. As one instance of his enterprise, it may be worthy of note that he employed the first regular reporter of debates in Congress. The profits of his journal were great, and he was in the midst of prosperity, when, on the night of the 27th of January, 1797, a fire broke out in his dwelling-house, and, in an unsuccessful attempt to rescue his family from the flames, he was so much injured that he survived only a few days. His wife and three children were, on the 28th, committed to a common grave. Mr. Andrew Brown, then a very young man, was the only member of the family who escaped; being absent from home at the time of the calamity. He became the proprietor of a newspaper then called ‘The Philadelphia Gazette.’ He may be said to have been almost reared on the field of battle. When the English forces were in pursuit of their American foes, carts, wagons, and every available vehicle, were eagerly seized by the latter, and their wives and children, as well as their goods, crammed indiscriminately into them. Mr. Brown, when a boy, had many narrow escapes of this description. Thrown on his own resources, he acted with characteristic energy. Entertaining no sympathy with the anti-English party, he at once changed the politics of his paper—a step which excited considerable animosity against him—the friends of ‘freedom of opinion’ carrying their violence so far as to attempt even personal chastisement. Mr. Brown, however, adhered to his course, and his paper

flourished, despite all opposition. At that period, every ship from Europe conveyed news of the great events of the war. Mr. Brown projected and perfected a system of boat expresses, to board the English vessels on their arrival, by which means he was enabled to outstrip all his contemporaries. This may be considered the first step in that magnificent system of expressing which has since been carried out with so much skill in England, and which now reflects so much honor on the British press. During the frightful ravages of the yellow fever at Philadelphia, Mr. B. continued the publication of his newspaper, at the imminent risk of his life, at a period when the whole city was deserted by its inhabitants, and the grass grew high in the streets. Being the only paper published, the fugitive citizens, dispersed over the country, were indebted to it alone for information of their scattered friends, and of the progress of the disease. Mr. Brown, however, soon saw too much of 'liberalism' to remain in a land where 'liberalism' was then rampant. He disposed of his property in the 'Philadelphia Gazette,' and, in 1802, he embarked for England. During the whole of the long period which had elapsed, he had ever employed such means as lay at his disposal in the support of the old Tory cause. He had retired from the active duties of life some years, and died on Tuesday, at his house, in Holford Square, London, at the age of seventy-five years, a victim to the prevailing influenza."

## GEORGE BRYAN.

GEORGE BRYAN, a Judge of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, was the eldest son of an ancient and respectable family in Dublin, Ireland; in his Ode on which country Southey exclaims, with some reason,—

"O land, profuse of genius and of worth."

He came to this country in early life, and lived forty years in Philadelphia. At first, he engaged extensively in commercial business; but it pleased the wise Disposer of events to defeat his

plans, and reduce him to a state of comparative poverty. He afterwards lived more in accordance with ancient simplicity. He was an active and intelligent man. Previously to the Revolution, he was introduced into public employments. He was a delegate in Congress, which met in 1765, for the purpose of remonstrating against the arbitrary measures of Great Britain. In the war which followed he took an open and active part. After the Declaration of Independence, he was Vice-President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania; and on the death of President Wharton, in May, 1778, he was placed at the head of the government. When his term of office, by the limitation of the Constitution, expired, in the autumn of 1779, he was elected a member of the Legislature. Here, amidst the tumult of war and invasion, when every one was trembling for himself, his mind was occupied by the claims of humanity and charity. He at this time planned and completed an act for the gradual abolition of slavery, which is an imperishable monument to his memory. He thus furnished evidence that, in opposing the exactions of a foreign power, he was opposing tyranny, and really attached to the cause of liberty. In 1780, he was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court, in which station he continued during the remainder of his life. In 1784, he was elected one of the Council of Censors, and was one of its principal members till his death. When the subject of the Constitution of the United States was discussed, he was conspicuous in the ranks of the opposition. He died in Philadelphia, January 28th, 1791, aged sixty years.

Besides the offices already mentioned, Judge Bryan engaged in various public, literary, and charitable employments. Formed for a close application to study, animated with an ardent thirst for knowledge, and blessed with a memory of wonderful tenacity, and a clear, penetrating, and decisive judgment, he availed himself of the labors and acquisitions of others, and brought honor to the stations which he occupied. To his other attainments, he added the virtues of the Christian. He was distinguished by his benevolence and sympathy with the distressed; by an unaffected humility and modesty; by his readiness to forgive injuries; and by the inflexible integrity of his conduct. He was superior to the frowns and blandishments of the world. Thus eminently qualified for the

various public offices in which he was placed, he was faithful and humble in discharging their duties, filling them with dignity and reputation, in the worst of times, and in the midst of a torrent of unmerited obloquy and opposition. Such was his disinterestedness and his zeal for the good of others, that his own interest seemed to be overlooked. In the administration of justice, he was impartial and incorruptible. He was an ornament to the profession of Christianity, which he made the delight of his connections, and a public blessing to the State. By his death religion lost an amiable example, and science a steady friend.

## WILLIAM BURROWS.

WILLIAM BURROWS, a naval officer, was born at Kinderton, near Philadelphia, October 6th, 1785. To the grief of his father, Colonel Burrows, of the marine corps, he early indicated a passion for the naval service. A midshipman's warrant was obtained in 1799. In subsequent years he served on board of different ships: in 1803, he was under Preble, in the Tripolitan war; in 1807, he enforced the embargo in the Delaware. In 1812, he made a voyage to India on his private affairs. Appointed to the command of the sloop-of-war Enterprise, he sailed from Portsmouth; and on Sunday, September 5th, 1813, fell in with his Britannic Majesty's brig Boxer, off Portland, between Seguin and Cape Elizabeth. After an action of forty-five minutes, the Boxer was captured, her commander, Blyth, being killed by a cannon-ball. At the first fire, Lieutenant Burrows was wounded by a musket-ball, but refused to be carried below. When the sword of his enemy was presented to him, he exclaimed, clasping his hands, "I am satisfied—I die contented!" He died at 12 o'clock at night. For his gallantry, Congress voted a gold medal to his nearest male relative. The two commanders were honorably buried in Portland, on the 9th September, 1813. Lieutenant Burrows was cold and reserved in his manners; yet he had an irresistible vein of wit and humor. His master passion was



the love of glory ; and a momentary flush of triumph soothed the anguish of his last hours. He lived not to hear the applauses of his countrymen. Happy are they who seek and obtain the unwithering glory, the everlasting honor of Heaven !

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## PEIRCE BUTLER.

PEIRCE BUTLER, a Senator, was of the family of the Dukes of Ormond, in Ireland. Before the Revolution, he was a major in a British regiment in Boston. He afterwards attached himself to the republican institutions of America. In 1787, he was a delegate from South Carolina to Congress ; in 1787, a member of the Convention which framed the Constitution of the United States. Under the Constitution, he was one of the first Senators from South Carolina, and remained in Congress till 1796. On the death of Mr. Calhoun, in 1802, he was again appointed, but resigned in 1804. In his political views he was opposed to some of the measures of Washington's administration. Jay's Treaty he disapproved of, while he approved of the war of 1812. He died at Philadelphia, February 15th, 1822, aged seventy-seven years. His wife, a daughter of Colonel Middleton, of Charleston, South Carolina, whom he married in 1768, died in 1790. He was, at times, a Director of the first and second Banks of the United States, chartered by Congress.

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## THOMAS CADWALADER, M.D.

DR. THOMAS CADWALADER, an eminent physician, the son of John Cadwalader, was born at Philadelphia. He died on the 14th of November, 1779, aged about seventy-two years.

After finishing his professional studies in this country, he completed his medical education in Europe. He studied anatomy under Cheselden. On his return, he settled in Philadelphia, where he practised medicine with the most distinguished reputation.



Dr. John Jones, Professor of Surgery in King's College, New York, was his pupil. He had himself been a pupil of the father of Dr. Jones. When Dr. Jones published his work on the "Treatment of Wounds and Fractures," he dedicated it to Dr. Cadwalader, describing him as a person "whose whole life had been one continued scene of benevolence and humanity." Dr. Cadwalader published, in 1745, one of the earliest of American medical treatises, in which he recommended a change in the ordinary treatment of a then prevalent disorder. The change in practice which he recommended was generally introduced. Dr. Rush, in his lectures, used constantly to quote this little treatise with praise. Dr. Cadwalader, from the establishment of the Pennsylvania Hospital until his death, was one of its physicians. He was useful in promoting its interests, as well as those of the Philosophical Society and the College. He made dissections and demonstrations for the elder Dr. Shippen in the college, and for others who had not been abroad. This was probably the first business of the kind ever performed in Pennsylvania. As a physician, he was uncommonly attentive to his practice. He always enjoyed a great share of well-merited influence with his fellow-citizens. In 1765 he became a member of the Provincial Council; and, until 1773, took part occasionally in its proceedings.

He has been described as remarkable for the tenderness and benevolence of his disposition, constantly blessed with a serene mind, rarely depressed by bad, and not improperly elated by good fortune. The grace and attractiveness of his deportment, on one occasion, was the means of saving his life. In 1760, Lieutenant Bruluman of the Provincial militia was executed at Philadelphia for the murder of a young gentleman named Scull. The murderer, soured by some disgust, or perhaps insane, was weary of life. He resolved, in order to deprive himself of existence, to shoot the first person whom he might meet, and surrender himself to justice. He walked out with this determination, having a fusil in his hand. Upon the commons, then abounding in game, now Penn Square, in the City of Philadelphia, he soon met Dr. Cadwalader, who accosted him unexpectedly, with a bow, saying, "Good morning, sir; a fine day for your sport." Bruluman afterwards declared that though Dr. Cadwalader was an entire stranger, there was in his manner some-

thing indescribable, which made it impossible to kill him. But the resolution to kill a human being was unchanged; and Mr. Scull, soon after, became the victim.

NOTE. Persons of the medical profession may be interested in learning that on 30th September, 1751, Governor Belcher, of New Jersey, then in the 70th year of his age, being afflicted with tremulousness from paralysis, wrote to Dr. Cadwalader that "the ingenious Mr. Franklin who" was "a connoisseur in such matters," had recommended "electrification" as a remedy, and had proposed bringing his electrical apparatus to Burlington for the purpose. In this letter, and one of a week later, the Governor asked Dr. Cadwalader's advice as to the propriety of the application, wishing him to consult Dr. McGraw then in Philadelphia. Like most men who ask advice, the Governor had already determined that the experiment should be tried. He wrote thanking Dr. Franklin; and, on the 18th of November, again wrote from Elizabethtown, requesting that the apparatus might be sent to Burlington, to be forwarded to Amboy. Dr. Franklin again promised to make him a visit; for which promise the Governor thanked him, in a letter of the 25th. On the 18th of December, he wrote acknowledging the receipt of the apparatus, but stating that "the glass globe was broke all to pieces, \* \* \* \* a great misfortune to him, in the delay of what he desired to be done;" adding that he had tried, without success, to get another at New York, and asking where one could be obtained. On the 20th of January, he returned the apparatus to Dr. Franklin, with a letter containing an expression of regret for the accident which had happened. He had, in the meantime, as appears from this letter, and one of the 18th to Colonel Brattle, obtained a similar apparatus from Mr. Burr. The electrical experiment he had tried "over and over again," without deriving any benefit; but he intended to persevere. Governor Belcher lived until the 31st of August, 1757. What the medical opinions on the proposed experiment had been, is unknown. Dr. Franklin, in his letter of 21st December, 1757, to Sir John Pringle, states that he had never known any permanent advantage from electricity in palsies, though its apparent effects had been temporarily beneficial. He thought that, perhaps, some permanent benefit might have been obtained if its application had been regulated under the direction of a skilful physician. His own original experiments were not made until after the newspapers had mentioned cures which it had effected in Italy and Germany.

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## GENERAL JOHN CADWALADER.

JOHN CADWALADER, the son of Dr. Thomas Cadwalader, was born at Philadelphia. He has been described as distinguished for a zealous and inflexible adherence to the cause of American independence; and for intrepidity, as a soldier, in upholding that cause, during the most discouraging periods of danger and misfortune.

At the commencement of the war of independence he was about thirty-three years of age. He then commanded a corps of volunteers in Philadelphia, the composition of which may be known from its designation as the "Silk Stocking Company." Nearly all of its members afterwards received commissions in the line of the army. He was an active member of the Committee of Safety, until he was appointed Colonel of one of the City battalions. As a Brigadier-General, under the State Government, he afterwards commanded the Pennsylvania troops in the important operations of the campaign in the following winter.

When General Washington determined to cross the Delaware above the falls with his main division, in the evening of Christmas day, 1776, and attack Trenton, the plan of his operations was, that the river should be simultaneously crossed, at lower points, by two smaller divisions of his little army. One of them, under General Ewing, was to land at the ferry below Trenton. Another, under General Cadwalader, a few miles lower. General Ewing was to prevent any movement of the British from Trenton towards their posts at Bordentown and Burlington. General Cadwalader was to make, if possible, an attack upon Burlington. General Washington's orders to him, dated 25th December, 1776, 6 o'clock, P.M., were: "If you can do nothing real, at least create as great a diversion as possible." General Washington, with difficulty, crossed the Delaware, on the fast ice, a few miles above Trenton. Moving ice in the river, below Trenton, rendered it impossible for the other divisions to cross. A part of the British force in Trenton, retreating in the direction of Bordentown, thus escaped the capture by General Ewing, that would otherwise have been almost inevitable. General Cadwalader could not cross until the 27th, when his division passed over from Bristol to the Jersey side, where he remained. General Washington had, in the meantime, after his victory at Trenton, recrossed with his prisoners, on the evening of the 26th, to Pennsylvania. General Ewing's command, and some other Pennsylvania troops, crossed the river on the 28th and 29th, and took a position at Bordentown. The British were concentrating themselves at Trenton, having abandoned the lower posts, when General Washington again crossed the Delaware. A junction of the divisions of his army having been effected, his whole force, in position at Trenton, did not exceed five thousand men.

The British army at Trenton being much stronger, he abandoned his position there in the night, and, marching with silence and celerity, made, early in the morning of the 3d of January, 1777, the attack upon Princeton, where the enemy's force was weaker. This was the first engagement in which General Cadwalader took part. General Washington would have surprised the British at Princeton, had not a party of them, which was on the way to Trenton, descried his troops when about two miles distant, and sent back couriers to give the alarm. In the sharp action, of brief duration and indecisive result, which ensued, upwards of one hundred of the enemy were killed, and three hundred were taken prisoners. The loss on the American side, except in officers, was comparatively small. General Washington, in writing, shortly afterwards, to the President of Congress, described General Cadwalader as "a man of ability, a good disciplinarian, firm in his principles, and of intrepid bravery." Chief Justice Marshall\* has likewise attested the confidence that, after this winter campaign, was placed in General Cadwalader's "activity, talents, and zeal." The effect of the battles of Princeton and Trenton, and of the evacuation, by the British, of Burlington, was to postpone, for several months, the movement of Sir William Howe upon Philadelphia. At the end of this time, the movement was made from a different quarter.

When the British army, in September, 1777, landed at Elkton, in Maryland, General Washington was informed that the militia of the Eastern Shore were unprovided with arms. Believing that they would require the aid of an officer to organize them for service, he wrote to General Cadwalader, whose residence was divided between that region and Philadelphia, requesting his "good offices," which were immediately exerted, for the purpose. General Cadwalader shortly afterwards joined the army under General Washington, and took part in the battle of Brandywine. During the subsequent occupation of Philadelphia by the British army, he served as a volunteer at the battle of Germantown. In the early part of the winter, when our army was at Whitemarsh, he was engaged in occasional partisan service on the flanks of the enemy, and in constant reconnoissances. In the latter part of De-

\* He was then an officer in the army.



cember, the remnant of the army went into winter quarters at Valley Forge. He was afterwards again in Maryland, manifesting an interest in the recruiting service on the Eastern Shore for the approaching campaign. Early in the spring of 1778, he wrote, on this and other subjects to General Washington, stating his purpose to rejoin the army. General Washington's reply mentions the pleasure which the receipt of the letter had afforded, as it encouraged the hope he had previously entertained of seeing General Cadwalader "in camp again." General Washington added: "We want your aid exceedingly; and the public, perhaps at no time since the commencement of the war, would be more benefited by your advice and assistance, than at the present moment, and throughout the whole of this campaign, which must be important and critical."

The British army, upon evacuating Philadelphia, in the latter part of June, 1778, moved so very slowly towards New York, as to indicate the desire of their commander for a general engagement in New Jersey. At a previous council of war held by General Washington, "the almost concurrent opinion of the general officers," as reported by Chief-Justice Marshall, was "against risking an action." Of seventeen Generals, he states that "only WAYNE and CADWALADER were *decidedly* in favor of attacking the enemy. FAYETTE appeared inclined to that opinion, without openly embracing it. General GREENE, also, was disposed to hazard more than the counsels of the majority would sanction." According to Chief-Justice Marshall, General Washington was "very strongly inclined to the measure." He ordered Arnold, then in command at Philadelphia, to detach about four hundred Continental troops, and as many militia as could be collected in the city and the adjacent country, to advance on the rear of the enemy. Chief-Justice Marshall says: "If General Cadwalader could be prevailed on to command them, he was named by Washington for that service, as an officer in whom full confidence might be placed. Cadwalader engaged in it with alacrity." At the end of a week, the British army not having proceeded quite forty miles on their march from Philadelphia, General Washington again assembled the council of general officers, whose decided opinion still was against hazarding a general action. Some of them were in favor of an experimental



skirmishing movement of a considerable force on the enemy's flank, while the main body of the American army should maintain such a relative position as would afford an opportunity to act as the circumstances might require. There was, however, here, a disagreement as to the proper strength of the skirmishing force. Marshall says: "General Washington still retained his inclination to engage the enemy; and finding himself supported by the private wishes of some officers whom he highly valued, he determined to take his measures on his own responsibility, and without calling another council." The result was the battle of Monmouth, on 28th June, 1778, in which General Cadwalader was engaged.

Within a week afterwards, he received a challenge from General Conway, whom General Washington had, six months previously, designated as "a dangerous incendiary." A combination had been formed, in and out of the army, to supplant General Washington, and substitute General Gates, in the chief command. From the character and constancy of General Conway's intrigues to effect this object, the movement acquired the name of *Conway's Cabal*, which it has historically retained. General Cadwalader, who uniformly enjoyed the confidence and friendly regard of General Washington, was conspicuous in his opposition to this cabal. His animadversions upon General Conway's behavior, in certain respects, at the battle of Germantown, were the direct cause of the challenge. In the duel which followed, General Conway fell, wounded severely, and, as it was thought, mortally. He ultimately recovered; but, in the meantime, when this result was unlooked for, he wrote, in July, 1778, to General Washington, expressing "sincere grief for having done, written, or said anything disagreeable" to him; adding, "My career will soon be over; therefore, justice and truth prompt me to declare my last sentiments. You are, in my eyes, the great and good man. May you long enjoy the love, veneration, and esteem of these States, whose liberties you have asserted by your virtues."

General Cadwalader never was in the military service of the United States. When his command in the Pennsylvania line was not in the field, he acted in battle either as a volunteer, or under a special designation for particular service. That he had not a

permanent command in the Continental service, was the result of his own choice.

On the 21st February, 1777, he was appointed by Congress one of ten Brigadier-Generals, but declined the appointment. He then was in service under the State, with, sometimes, about eighteen hundred of the Pennsylvania troops under his command. If he could keep such a force in the field, this was, perhaps, at that period, the more useful service. In September, 1778, he was chosen, unanimously, by Congress, Brigadier-General of the cavalry of the United States, nominally composed of three regiments. This appointment he likewise declined, believing, with many others, that the war was very near to its close, and preferring civil to military life, unless his country needed the active services of a soldier. He was of opinion that, in consequence of the recognition by France of the nationality of the United States, Great Britain could not withhold the acknowledgment of their independence. The evacuation of Philadelphia by the British army had been followed by overtures of peace from the British Government. The failure of the British Commissioners in the attempted negotiation which ensued, showed that negotiations, in order to succeed, must be reopened on the basis of a recognition of American Independence. He, and others, thought that motives of self-interest would induce an acquiescence by the British Government in this necessity. The error was not in these opinions, but in the measurement of the length of time required for such political causes to produce their effects. General Washington was of opinion that the war would not be so soon terminated. General Cadwalader, two years afterwards, wrote to General Washington that he had since found reason to regret that he had not accepted the command of the cavalry. General Washington wrote in reply, giving his reasons for having, himself, at an intervening period, entertained an opinion "that the hour of deliverance was not far distant, since, however unwilling Great Britain might be to yield the point, it would not be in her power to continue the contest. But," he added, "These prospects, flattering as they were, have proved delusory." General Washington, who had earnestly solicited General Cadwalader to accept the appointment, repeated, in this letter, the expression of regret that he was not in

the army, and of a desire to see him there again. Their mutual friendship was unabated while they lived.

After the war, General Cadwalader was a member of the Legislative Assembly of Maryland. We have no memorial of him as a speaker. Some extant productions of his pen are not wanting in historical and political importance. As a writer, he was not less remarkable for precision in style than force of expression.

He was the centre of a large circle of devoted friends. If any persons were his enemies, their enmity ceased at his death. When he was living, Thomas Paine was considered his enemy. A fortnight after his death, an epitaph, in the form of a monumental inscription, appeared in a Baltimore newspaper. Thomas Paine was its author. It was in the following words:—

In memory of  
 GENERAL JOHN CADWALADER,  
 Who died, February the 10th, 1786,  
 At Shrewsbury, his seat in Kent County,  
 In the 44th year of his age.  
 This amiable and worthy gentleman  
 Had served his country  
 With reputation  
 In the character of a soldier and statesman :  
 He took an active part and had a principal  
 Share in the late Revolution ;  
 And, although he was zealous in the cause  
 Of American freedom,  
 His conduct was not marked with the  
 Least degree of malevolence or party spirit.  
 Those who honestly differed from him in opinion,  
 He always treated with singular tenderness.  
 In sociability and cheerfulness of temper,  
 Honesty, and goodness of heart,  
 Independence of spirit, and warmth of friendship,  
 He had no superior,  
 And few, very few, equals.  
 Never did any man die more lamented  
 By his friends and neighbors ;  
 To his family and near relations  
 His death was a stroke still more severe.

## GENERAL THOMAS CADWALADER.

THOMAS CADWALADER, born 28th October, 1779, died 26th October, 1841, the son of General John Cadwalader, was admitted to the bar, at Philadelphia, in 1801. The punctual and efficient discharge of his duties, as a man of business, was the cause of an early accession of confidential employments, in which he was engaged, as an agent and a trustee, for various important interests. His necessary attention to these engagements withdrew him, in early youth, from the legal profession, without encroaching, afterwards, upon his opportunities for the performance of domestic and social duties, and the cultivation of refined literary tastes.

He was never of the military profession; but his biography is, in part, that of a soldier. During the naval war against France, at the close of the last century, the danger of hostilities on land was thought imminent. Acts of Congress authorized the President to raise a military force. General Washington, from his retirement, at Mount Vernon, accepted the command. Mr. Cadwalader, then a student of the law, applied for a commission in the army, which, however, was not raised. The enforcement of a law, levying a tax to support the charges of hostilities against France, was resisted in the northeastern part of Pennsylvania. Persons arrested there under a criminal charge, for this resistance, were forcibly rescued from the Marshal's custody by an assemblage of armed men. The parties thus liberated voluntarily surrendered themselves, but the force which had rescued them did not disperse; and the Marshal of the United States was unable to resume the performance of his duties in that part of the State. Under a requisition from the President, the Governor of Pennsylvania called seven troops of the volunteer cavalry of the State into the service of the United States. These troops, under the command of General Macpherson, proceeded, in the beginning of April, 1799, towards the place at which the persons against whom the movement was directed were assembled. At the end of a day's march, General Macpherson, having halted for the night, sent forward a detachment of

sixteen of his best mounted men to this place. Riding for several miles with great speed, they reached it in the same evening, surprised the persons there assembled, dispersed them; and, encountering no resistance, captured some of the alleged ringleaders of the insurrection, and brought them as prisoners to General Macpherson, whose expedition was thus terminated. Some of the prisoners were afterwards capitally convicted of high treason, and others were to have been tried, when all of them were pardoned. Mr. Cadwalader, a private in a troop of cavalry, was one of the sixteen men of the detachment by whom they were captured. He was then in the twentieth year of his age. From this time, he was a careful student of military science, with occasional practice in the volunteer cavalry. In the war of 1812, with England, he became a Captain, and afterwards, the Lieutenant-Colonel of a regiment of volunteer cavalry. He held the latter commission in September, 1814, when the British squadron, with the army which had been landed at Washington, and afterwards at Baltimore, appeared in the bay of the Delaware. A large force of the Pennsylvania militia was in the field a few miles below Philadelphia. Below them, and in advance, an unorganized, hastily levied volunteer force, was encamped. The latter force was without a commander. No officer in the camp was of rank higher than that of Captain. Colonel Cadwalader was, by common consent, there and at Philadelphia, selected as the proper person to command this force. It should have constituted a part of the brigade composed of the volunteers and militia of the City of Philadelphia. The former General of this brigade, an eminent citizen, whose commission had shortly before expired, was then in the field as a private in a troop of cavalry. The officer who had succeeded him in the command of the brigade, resigned his commission, in order to make room for Colonel Cadwalader's appointment. This appointment was made informally by a letter from the Governor, then absent from the seat of government of the State. At such periods, legal niceties are disregarded. Under this letter of appointment, General Cadwalader, some days before his commission was received, took the command. His "advanced light brigade" was then immediately organized. It was composed of a squadron of uniformed cavalry, a battalion of uniformed artillery, a regiment of uniformed infantry, and a battalion of ununiformed militia. The



field-officers of these respective corps were elected at the camp. The brigade, as afterwards reinforced by some companies of uniformed volunteer infantry from the neighboring counties, and by a regiment of uniformed riflemen from the northern and middle portions of the State, was composed of about three thousand five hundred men. General Cadwalader, on taking the command, prepared an abridged edition of the work on tactics then in use, which, printed in a portable form, was distributed among the commissioned and non-commissioned officers. These officers were placed under a course of instruction. A system of constant drilling of the men, and a rigid system of police, were at once established. The brigade, having adapted itself to the usages of a regular army, soon assumed the appearance of such a force, rather than that of a body of local militia. It remained in the field, in the service of the United States, until the beginning of December, 1814. The discipline and apparent efficiency which it attained, in the short period of the service, were so remarkable, that its commander acquired the highest reputation as a tactician, which was afterwards maintained. A British general officer, a prisoner, was, by an order of the Government, placed where he might see this brigade on its march homeward. When the field and company officers, and rank and file of the brigade were disbanded, General Cadwalader and his staff were excepted from the order discharging the troops from the service of the United States. This retention of him in service was more than a mere complimentary recognition by the General Government of his usefulness. He was, in the winter of 1815, placed in the temporary command of the military division of the United States, composed of the State of Delaware, the eastern part of Pennsylvania, and adjacent portions of New Jersey and Maryland. He held this command for nearly two months.\*

\* The fiscal embarrassments of the Government were then very great. The troops and contractors were paid in treasury notes. These notes were at such a discount as to be worth in the market less than three-fourths of their nominal full value, at which they were disbursed. He received from the treasury for disbursement several hundred thousand dollars in such notes, payable to his own order. He indorsed them in blank, disregarding the advice of some of his friends, to qualify the indorsement, so as to preclude recourse to himself. Such a qualified indorsement would have discredited them still further. In the subsequent settlement of his accounts, as commander of the district, he was informed, semi-officially,

In January, 1815, an Act of Congress authorized the President to receive into the regular service of the United States a limited military force, raised, organized, and officered under the authority of the respective States. The quota for Pennsylvania was about five thousand men. Measures to raise a division for service under this law were in progress in the Legislature of the State. It was, at the same time, proposed to pass an Act of Congress for the addition of two divisions to the regular army of the United States. A general understanding, or expectation, prevailed that the post of Major-General commanding this Pennsylvania division would be offered by the Governor to General Cadwalader, and also that the President would offer him the commission of Brigadier-General in one of the proposed new divisions of the army of the General Government. If the choice between these alternatives had been thus offered, it was his determination to accept the latter appointment, with a well-founded expectation of being ordered upon active service on the northern frontier in the spring of 1815. The news of the peace, unexpectedly received in February, 1815, changed these plans. He retained his post in the militia, to which he was afterwards unanimously re-elected. He subsequently became the Major-General of the 1st division of the State. In May, 1826, a resolution of the Congress of the United States authorized the Secretary of War "to have prepared a complete system of cavalry tactics, and also a system of exercise and instruction of field artillery, including manœuvres for light or horse artillery, for the use of the militia of the United States, to be reported for consideration, or adoption, by Congress at its next session." A Board of eight officers was convened at Washington, in October, 1826, to prepare the materials for this report. General Scott was President of the Board. Among its members were Lieutenant-Colonel, afterwards General Taylor, and General Cadwalader. The part of the report relating to cavalry tactics, was, it is believed, prepared entirely by General Cadwalader.

No man better understood the modes of overcoming such diffi-

that, in other such cases, a commission upon the disbursement of notes thus indorsed had been allowed, where the circumstances had, perhaps, not been so strong in support of the charge. He did not act upon the suggestion, being himself of opinion that the charge of such a commission could not properly be made.

culties as ordinarily prevent volunteers and other irregular troops from being properly disciplined. The result of his experience was a want of reliance upon the efficiency of such troops, until after a service in the field of several months.

He was only thirty-four years of age when he took the command of the light brigade. Respected senior fellow-citizens, and all the flower of the youth of his native city, were under his command. The term of their service in the field, however short, was of sufficient length to establish relations between soldiers and a beloved commander which military life alone can produce. These relations were, in his case, established with persons with whom his intercourse was not interrupted after they were disbanded. His local influence became, therefore, even in the prime of his manhood, almost patriarchal. It was augmented by the general respect and good-will due to his acknowledged merits, moral and intellectual, and to the uniform courtesy of his deportment. In the full proportion of this influence, his public-spirited efforts were always exerted with disinterestedness for the welfare of others.

His private friendships were sincere, and were warmly reciprocated. With his cotemporaries, his association was that of affectionate brotherhood. In the earlier periods of his life, men of maturer age sought his counsel. In its later periods, youthful friends found his fellowship as congenial as it was instructive. Death alone diminished the number of his friendships, of which the circle was constantly extending itself. In this private circle, he was known as the author of occasional publications in leading journals. He was a writer of a neat and humorous, as well as a powerful style; was an accomplished general scholar, and a constant and studious reader. His house, the abode of liberal hospitality without ostentation, was the resort of the learned, the accomplished, and the intellectual,—where modest merit was welcomed not less cordially than elevated rank or station.

## CHARLES CALDWELL, M.D.

A PHYSICIAN of Philadelphia, whose career may be traced with interest through the pages of his autobiography, was a writer of much industry and ability, and of original powers of reflection. He was the son of an Irish Lieutenant, who, on his emigration to America, settled in Delaware, and subsequently removed to North Carolina, and established himself "in a region which, but a short time previously, had been the home of the savage, whose haunts and hunting-grounds were still but a short distance remote from it, in Orange, now Caswell County, on Moon's Creek, a small branch of Dan River, about twenty miles south of the southern border of Virginia." There our author was born, May 14th, 1772. His early education in that ill-famished district was picked up more by his own sagacity and perseverance, than through the assistance of others. In his boyhood he assisted in building a small log-house near his father's crowded home, that he might have an opportunity of studying by himself. His father, removing to the southern part of the State, he there fell in with better opportunities of instruction, being taught by an estimable schoolmaster named Harris, who subsequently became tutor in the College of New Jersey. With some slight additional preparation at an "academy," he became himself a teacher, taking charge at first of the Snow Creek Seminary, "situated on a stream of that name, not far from the foot of the Bushby Mountains in North Carolina," and afterwards of the Centre Institute, in the same State. Still pursuing his own studies, his taste was directed to topics of scientific study by meeting with Samuel Stanhope Smith's "Essay on the variety of Color in the Human Race," to the positions of which he became thus early an antagonist.

In the choice of a profession he alternated between divinity and the law; he however chose medicine, and pursued the study for a time with the inefficient aid of a practitioner at Salisbury, in his native State. In 1792, he arrived at Philadelphia, and engaged with the medical classes of the University, which, at that time,



were sustained by Shippen and Wistar in Anatomy and Surgery, and Rush in the Institutes of Medicine. He engaged with ardor in the study, and enjoyed the personal confidence of Rush and others, while he devoted himself assiduously to his profession during the yellow fever season of 1793. On the breaking out of the Whiskey Insurrection he received the appointment of Surgeon to a brigade, and proceeded with the forces to the neighborhood of Pittsburgh, where the difficulty was declared to be terminated, and the troops retired. In the military banquet which followed, the management of the affair was assigned to Caldwell, whose address on the occasion drew forth a liberal compliment from Hamilton.

In 1795, he commenced his literary career by translating Blumenbach's "Elements of Physiology" from the Latin, followed, within a few years, by a number of medical treatises on the "Epidemic of the City," the "Vitality of the Blood," "Physiognomy," "Quarantines," and other subjects of a speculative and practical character. In 1814, he became the editor of the "Portfolio," succeeding Nicholas Biddle in the management of the work, to which he gave new efficiency by his ready pen and activity of mind, covering a great variety of subjects, and securing immediate success by the introduction of original materials relating to the conduct and heroes of the war with England. He secured the last by his intimacy and correspondence with the officers. "So earnest and determined," he tells us, "was General Brown in the scheme, that he asserted, in one of his letters, that he reported himself and ordered his officers to report themselves in their connection with all interesting events of the army as regularly to the editor of the 'Portfolio' as they did to him, or as he did to the Secretary of War." The articles in the "Portfolio," by Caldwell, were chiefly biographical, or reviews of the prominent books of poetry of the day. In 1816, at the suggestion of Dr. Chapman, he edited "Cullen's Practice of Physic," and the same year wrote most of the biography in "Delaplaine's Repository." He was also, at this time, Professor of Natural History in the University of Pennsylvania. In 1819, he removed to Kentucky, to take charge of a medical department in the Transylvania University at Lexington. His place was that of the Institutes of Medicine and Clinical Practice. Besides the immediate duties of in-



struction, Dr. Caldwell had to interest the State Legislature in the school, and create a prestige for Western medical education throughout that whole region. He succeeded in securing funds from the State, and, by his journeys, a favorable public opinion towards the enterprise. In 1820, he set out on an eight months' tour to Europe for the purpose of purchasing books and materials for the institution. His notices of the celebrities of London and Paris on this tour, sketched in his autobiography, include, among others, Sir Astley Cooper, Abernethy, whose oddity he fairly mastered by his decision and self-possession, Mrs. Somerville, whose remarkable attainments put the Doctor's universality to a test in a conversation running over criticism and the sciences.

After eighteen years' devotion to the Transylvania University, finding a new site for the school desirable, and the Trustees offering to make a change of locality, which had been contemplated, he withdrew from that institution in 1837, to establish in the neighboring city the "Louisville Medical Institute. He encountered the labors of this new enterprise with resolution, procuring funds and securing professors. After six years' devotion to this arduous work, difficulties arose between Dr. Caldwell and the Trustees; and in 1849, when he was on the eve of closing his connection with the institute, he was removed by the Board. The remainder of his life was passed in retirement at Louisville, till his death at that place, July 9th, 1853. He occupied himself during these last years with the composition of his autobiography, which was published in 1855, with a brief conclusion by the editress, Harriet W. Warner.

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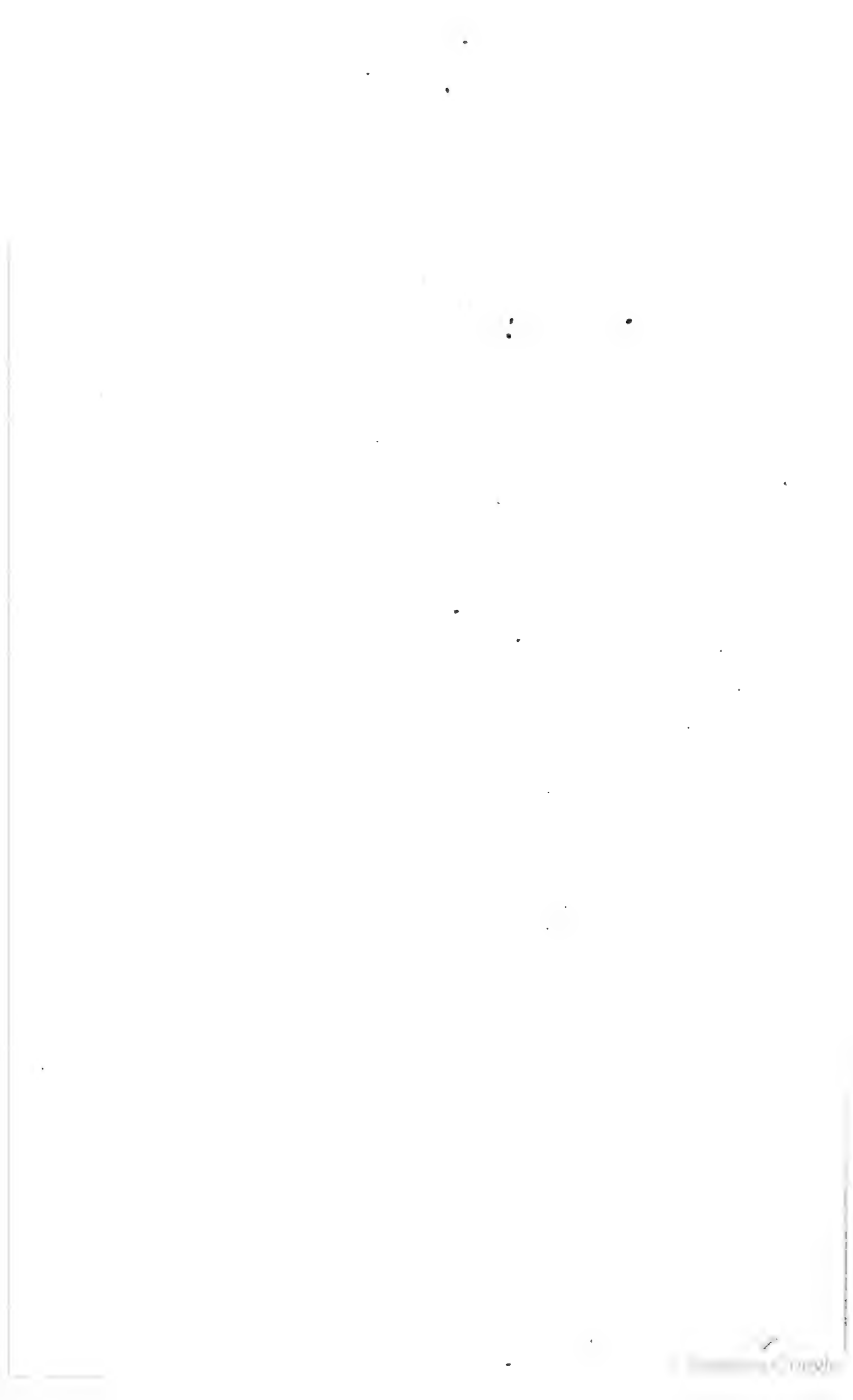
## DAVID CALDWELL.

DAVID CALDWELL was the son of Samuel Caldwell, and succeeded his father in the office of Clerk of the District Court of the United States, and continued in it until his resignation, October 6th, 1831: the forty-second anniversary of the original appointment of his father, as Mr. Caldwell remarks in his letter of resignation to the late Judge Joseph Hopkinson, son of Judge Francis Hopkinson,

who had appointed his father. The reply to this letter of resignation is highly honorable to the two fathers and the two sons. "I reciprocate," says Judge Hopkinson, "most truly your expressions of affection and respect. Our intimacy commenced in our childhood, and was the growth of the friendship that subsisted between our fathers. I think we may now say, that it is not likely to be interrupted during our lives." Speaking of the estimation in which Mr. Caldwell was held by the Bar, he says: "You know how much they esteem you, and how highly they value your services, as well as the liberal and courteous manner in which they have always been rendered." The members of the Bar presented him with a silver cup, on his leaving his office, as a testimonial of their esteem and regard, and of appreciation of his long and valuable services to the profession. Mr. Caldwell, at his death, left a widow and children. One of his daughters married Dr. Bradford, of Philadelphia. Mr. Caldwell's long life of usefulness and unsullied integrity won for him the esteem of all who knew him, and that chief earthly reward of a well-spent life, "a conscience void of offence towards God and towards man."

## GEORGE CAMPBELL.

GEORGE CAMPBELL was a native of Stewartstown, in the county of Tyrone, Ireland, where the family had been long settled. He was admitted to practice at the Armagh Assizes, in 1751, and pursued the profession until 1765, when he emigrated to Philadelphia, where he passed the remainder of his days. At the time of the difficulties with Great Britain, he took a warm interest in the question, and was among the originators of the first city troop of horse, in which he served until they obtained their discharge, after the peace. He continued the practice of law, and was elected a member of the Legislature from the city, and appointed, in 1783, Register of Wills for the City and County of Philadelphia, which he held by appointment of successive Governors until the year 1800, when, from party feelings, he was removed. He died in the





year 1810, at the age of eighty years, enjoying the respect and esteem of all who knew him. He was one of the subscribers to the old Pennsylvania Bank, in 1790. His son, George Campbell (now deceased), was a member of the Hibernian Society.

## MATTHEW CAREY.

THE subject of the following notice was for more than fifty years a public-spirited citizen of Philadelphia, who was distinguished for broad and liberal views upon all affairs of national or local interest; as well as for his philanthropic labors and charitable acts. He possessed a most admirable energy and perseverance under difficulties and disappointments, which were shown, whether in conducting his own affairs, in urging the claims of the friendless and destitute, or in advocating and forwarding projects for public good,—equalled by few and surpassed by none. With entire safety it may be asserted that, in no measure to which he called public attention and asked for co-operation, was he ever actuated by selfish motives.

Matthew Carey was born in the city of Dublin, on the 28th of January, 1760. His father,—an extensive contractor to the British army,—amassed a handsome competence, and was enabled to give to his five sons what was, at that time, regarded as a liberal education,—the English language, arithmetic, French, and Latin. When he had arrived at the age of fifteen, and it became necessary that he should select an occupation, he expressed a decided preference for that of printer and bookseller, but to which his father strongly objected. However, the opposition being in a measure removed, he was permitted to make choice of a situation, and he accordingly found an acceptable position with a bookseller in his native city, where he prosecuted the various duties of his station with assiduity and energy.

At an early age he was passionately fond of reading,—a taste which he retained in all its freshness to the last day of his life; and when he was not more than seventeen years of age he com-



menced his career as a writer by "An Essay on Duelling," which was printed in "The Hibernian Journal." This he followed up, in 1779, by a pamphlet entitled "The Urgent Necessity of an Immediate Repeal of the whole Penal Code against the Roman Catholics, candidly considered." The announcement of its intended publication was made in connection with the mottoes on the title-page, which were of a very inflammable character; and it produced considerable alarm, more "grounded on the terror of the mottoes," as the author has informed us, than from any other cause. The Irish Parliament was then in session, and the advertisement was brought to the attention of both houses. The pamphlet was denounced, and a reward was offered for the apprehension of the author. The father of Mr. Carey, discovering that he was the writer of it, took immediate measures for its suppression. A knowledge of this, however, led to no discontinuance of the prosecution on the part of the authorities, and the author was at once sent to Paris by his family. There he soon made the acquaintance of Dr. Franklin and Lafayette, and was employed by the former in printing copies of his despatches. The excitement which caused his departure from Dublin having blown over, Mr. Carey returned home in about twelve months, and almost immediately became engaged in conducting a newspaper, called "The Freeman's Journal."

In October, 1783, being then not quite twenty-four years of age, his father furnished him with the means of establishing a newspaper, which he called "The Volunteer's Journal;" the object of which was "to defend the commerce, the manufactures, and the political rights of Ireland against the oppression and encroachments of Great Britain." The editor was as patriotic a man as ever drew breath, and he fully appreciated the tyranny under which his noble country had long been crushed. His journal partook fully of this zeal and ardor, and in this it was well suited to the times. Ere long it attained a large circulation, and enjoyed an extended influence. Its course attracted the attention of the authorities, who, for a considerable time, threatened a prosecution; which in nowise, however, controlled the action of the editor. To prevent him from speaking out his honest convictions in a bold and manly spirit, was no easy matter.

At length, on the 5th of April, 1784, a severe attack upon the Prime Minister, as well as upon the Parliament, brought down the indignation of the government upon his "devoted" head. A motion was made in Parliament, "that an address be presented to the Lord Lieutenant, requesting that he will please issue his proclamation offering a reward for apprehending Mathew Carey." In addition to this, a prosecution was commenced against him for libel on the Premier. On the 11th, he was arrested, and although ample bail was offered, his release was, under various pretexts, refused. On the 19th, he was brought before Parliament for examination, when a series of interrogatories was put to him, which he positively refused to answer. More than this, he preferred charges against the Sergeant-at-Arms in whose custody he had been placed, on his arrest; and while the conduct of this functionary was manifestly in violation of law, a resolution fully justifying him was almost unanimously passed,—so little spirit or independence did the Irish Parliament possess at that time. The imprisonment of Mr. Carey continued until the month of May, 1784, when,—Parliament having adjourned,—he was liberated by the Lord Mayor; but although again at liberty, the prosecution for libel still hung like a drawn sword over his head, and it was deemed by his friends prudent that he should leave his native country. Accordingly, on the 7th of September, 1784, he embarked on board the *America*, Captain Keiler, for Philadelphia, where he had determined to settle from the circumstance of having seen notices of his trial in "The Pennsylvania Packet," and "Bradford's Weekly Advertiser;" and where he judged he would not be entirely unknown on his arrival.

On the 1st of November, 1784,—not however without having passed through some perils,—he landed in Philadelphia; and, while he was yet contemplating a removal to the country, until sufficient funds should be received from the sale of his newspaper in Dublin to enable him to engage in business, the Marquis de Lafayette, having heard of his arrival, desired that he should call upon him. The Marquis, previously aware of the persecutions he had suffered, and admiring his noble spirit, made inquiries of him as to his future plans and prospects. On stating that it was his intention, at as early a day as possible, to establish a newspaper, Lafayette entered

fully into the project, and promised him such influence as he could command with Robert Morris, Thomas Fitzsimmons, and other leading men in and beyond Philadelphia.

On the following morning Mr. Carey was surprised on receiving a letter from Lafayette containing the sum of four hundred dollars. This was the more remarkable from his having said not a word about desiring to borrow, or in any way receive money from the Marquis,—no such thought having entered his mind. This sum of money,—the fabric upon which it may be said he built his fortune,—he considered it a solemn duty to repay, in assisting Frenchmen in distress; which he did fully and amply. While it was not the desire of Lafayette that it should be regarded in the light of a loan, but as a free gift, Mr. Carey, in after years, consigned to him an invoice of tobacco, besides, on his arrival in New York, in 1824, repaying him the entire amount.

On having these funds placed in his hands, Mr. Carey resolved on establishing his newspaper without further delay, and, accordingly, on the 25th of January, 1785, appeared the first number of "The Pennsylvania Herald," a journal which introduced for the first time the feature of reports of debate in the House of Assembly; which, while they were admirably prepared, added greatly to its success. During this year, Mr. Carey became involved in a quarrel with Colonel Oswald, resulting in a duel, in which he received a wound, from the effects of which he did not entirely recover for more than a year. In 1786, he commenced, in company with several partners, the publication of "The Columbia Magazine;" but, finding it could not yield a profit sufficient for so extensive a concern, he retired from the firm, and established "The American Museum," a periodical which was for six years conducted by him with marked ability, and which has retained its fame, as well as its value, to the present day. On relinquishing its publication, in 1793, he engaged in the business, at that time generally combined, of printing and bookselling, which he continued until 1822, when he retired with a handsome fortune, the result of industry and intelligence.

During the prevalence of the yellow fever in Philadelphia, in 1793, he became a member of the Committee of Health, appointed to devise the best means of relieving the sick; and during those

trying times—of which he has left a record—he remained at his post, manifesting the most faithful zeal in the midst of danger of a much more than ordinary character. Between 1796 and 1798, he became involved in a controversy with William Cobbett, notwithstanding the fact that he had made every honorable effort to avoid it, which was impossible with a man of Cobbett's character. The controversy, which produced numerous publications, was closed by Mr. Carey with "The Pocupiniad, a Hudibrastic Poem," in which the language used by Cobbett in his attacks upon others, was applied to himself with such vigor and point, that he never attempted any reply, and ever afterwards avoided bringing Mr. Carey's name before the public, except in the most respectful and guarded manner. Mr. Carey, in 1801, brought forward the project of the establishment of literary fairs on the plan of those of Frankfort and Leipsic, which was favorably received, and carried out by the book trade in the United States, and continued for four or five years.

While, in 1806, a member of the Select Council of the City of Philadelphia, in connection with other members he made an unsuccessful effort to equalize taxation by dividing it between personal and real property, instead of confining it almost wholly to the latter. His views on this subject he advocated in a pamphlet which he published at the time. In 1810, when the charter of the Bank of the United States was on the eve of expiration, he urged with great energy its renewal; but the measure, owing to the want of judicious exertion on the part of the directors of the institution, was lost. The subsequent action of the Government of the United States, in 1814–15, calling upon Congress for the establishment of a like corporation in order to enable it to manage its embarrassed finances, was a sufficient indorsement of Mr. Carey's views on the subject.

To any one conversant with the political history of the United States, it will hardly be necessary to enter into particulars in order to show to how fearful an extent different sections and parties had become excited and exasperated towards the close of the last war with Great Britain. The condition of affairs in the summer and autumn of 1814, with the subsequent assembling of the Hartford Convention, and the influences exerted upon the legislation of Congress, are facts which constitute an important portion of that history. In September of that year, "in a moment of ardent zeal,"



as the subject of this sketch informs us, "he was seized with a desire of making an effort, by a candid publication of the numerous errors and follies on both sides, to allay the public effervescence, and calm the embittered feelings of the parties." Accordingly, he set himself to work at the labors which produced his volume entitled, "The Olive Branch, or Faults on Both Sides." The manuscript was furnished to the printer from day to day as it was written, and when about two-thirds of it was actually printed, his ardor began to ebb, and he was struck with the presumption of an individual, with no political influence or position, thinking to "calm the raging waves of faction which threatened shipwreck to the vessel of State." For a moment he determined to suppress the book, and make waste-paper of the sheets already prepared. After some days of reflection, again was his enthusiasm kindled, and he pushed the book to a rapid completion. In six or seven weeks from the day the first line was written, the volume, comprising two hundred and fifty pages, was ready for publication. The first edition was entirely exhausted within a few weeks, and another was published in less than two months from the date of the first. So great was his desire that its beneficial influences should be extended throughout the land, that he granted to various publishers, in different sections, permission to reprint it without allowing him any compensation for the copyright. Besides those printed in Philadelphia, editions were issued in Boston, Middleburg, Vt., and Winchester, Va. Within three years and a-half it passed through ten editions, amounting in the aggregate to ten thousand copies—a sale more extensive, perhaps, than at that time had ever been enjoyed by any other publication in the United States, school and religious books only excepted. Although more than forty years have elapsed since its publication, it is at this day regarded as a book of much merit, and is eagerly sought for.

Inspired, at an early age, with indignation at the cruelty and oppression exercised by the English government in Ireland, by the atrocious and heart-rending sufferings of the enslaved people; and by the unparalleled libels and calumnies by which all the English histories of Ireland were dishonored, he determined, in the year 1818, upon the preparation of a vindication of his native country. This resolve was consummated in the publication of his "*Vindiciæ*



*Hibernicæ*;" a volume which presents a greater mass of facts, illustrating the subject, and drawn from an extended field of research, than perhaps any publication of the same extent in the language. It has been pronounced, by high authority, the most thorough and complete vindication of Ireland that has ever been published.

During the calamitous condition of the country, in the widespread and deep-seated bankruptcy which followed the close of the War of 1812-15, Mr. Carey was led to seek for its causes. In 1819, he became thoroughly persuaded that it arose from the "unsound policy of withholding support and protection from that important branch of human industry employed in converting the rude produce of the earth into elaborated articles suited to the necessities and the comforts of mankind." Previous to the investigations which led to this determination, he had never devoted any particular attention to political economy,—the books then published appearing to him not only dry and uninteresting, but marred by illogical and inharmonious theories and statements. Having, as he believed, discovered the means of presenting to his fellow-men information which would confer enduring benefit upon them, he determined upon pressing it with all his power and energy. Throughout life he engaged in nothing which so completely engrossed his mind and all his faculties, and for so long a period, as the protection of American industry, which he justly regarded as the great means by which the United States would confer the greatest happiness and the most enduring prosperity upon her citizens. Never was greater ardor brought to bear for the good of any cause, by a single individual; and for fifteen years, in the face of difficulties, disappointments, and mortifications, which would have appalled and crushed any one less resolute and determined than himself, he contended almost single-handed. His views upon this important subject, may be briefly stated as follows:—

He believed that the prosperity of the country, in all its departments of industry, agriculture, trade, and commerce, as well as manufactures, depended upon the latter; and that, therefore, it was not sectional or special, but a great national question.

That it was superior in importance to any question ever agitated in the country, except the Declaration of Independence and the

adoption of the Federal Constitution, and that much of the value of these two depended upon the proper settlement of this question.

That in the result of this question the happiness and prosperity, not merely of his cotemporaries, but of generations yet unborn, were involved.

That the facts in favor of protection were so strong, and the arguments so plain and clear, that nothing more was necessary than to give them free and general circulation.

That it was a public duty of those who believed in the efficacy and advantages of the protective system, to promote its success by such means and sacrifices as their circumstances and situations would justify.

The spirit with which he entered into the discussion of this subject may, in a measure, be judged from the fact that, between 1819 and 1833, he wrote no less than *fifty-nine* different pamphlets, of from *four* to *two hundred and fourteen* pages each, making a total of twenty-three hundred and twenty-two pages; and, while the expense of much the larger portion of these was borne by himself, they were freely distributed in every section of the United States, without looking to sales for reimbursement. That his writings exerted a powerful influence in opening the eyes of the people of the United States to the necessity of protection, and that they exerted a marked influence on the legislation of the time, ample evidence of the most unquestionable and unimpeachable character now exists. To the exertions of no single individual was the country so much indebted for those important laws,—the protective tariffs of 1824 and 1828.

In treating of the protective system, he invariably fortified his reasonings by facts and statistics; and of his writings, Mr. Madison said: "I see no possibility of resisting the facts, principles, and arguments they contain."

When, in 1832, nullification in South Carolina inaugurated that system of disregard of the laws of the United States, which has since become so deep a shadow, and so beset our future with difficulties and dangers, he raised his voice, employed his pen, and contributed his means, towards instructing the public mind as to its nature, influence, and consequences. He ever remained of the opinion, that a moderate but firm stand on the part of a few men

of influence, with some exertion in forming public opinion, would have crushed it yet in its infancy, before it had reached that power and confidence which has since assumed such arrogance. For his exertions in the public cause, he was twice presented with a service of plate,—first by the friends of domestic industry in Wilmington, Delaware, and afterwards by citizens of Philadelphia. The committee acting on behalf of the last-named gentlemen, in fulfilling the duty intrusted to them, made use of the following language:—

“They have long witnessed the unwearied efforts with which every scheme of private benevolence and every plan of public improvement have found in you a zealous and disinterested advocate, and deem *your whole career in life an encouraging example, by the imitation of which, without the aid of official station or political power, every private citizen may become a public benefactor.*”

In this brief sketch it is impossible even to allude to the many benevolent objects to which his attention was directed. Suffice it to say he was ever ready to give his time and talents to the public, and he was equally ready to contribute his means to the relief of the poor.

He was a member of numerous societies in different sections of the country, and was constantly in correspondence with the learned, benevolent, and public-spirited men of the land. As may be gathered from the statement we have made with reference to the extent of his writings on “Protection,” he was, in every sense of the word, a voluminous author.

He died on the 16th of September, 1839, in the eightieth year of his age, and his death was mourned as a public loss. His remains were followed to the grave by thousands. A venerable and distinguished journalist, who had known him long and well, announced his death in the following terms:—

“The friend of mankind is no more. Long and sincerely will he be lamented, not in high places only, amid the pomp and circumstance of grief, but in the solitary corner of the poor and the friendless. Upon his grave honest tears will be shed. The orphan and the widow will wander there, and, in the heart’s deepest accents, implore the blessings of heaven upon his departed soul.”

## EDWARD L. CAREY.

EDWARD L. CAREY, son of Mathew Carey, born in the City of Philadelphia, April 6th, 1806, was eminent as a publisher, and as a patron of the fine arts. He was primarily connected in business with his father and brother, H. C. Carey, under the firm of M. Carey & Sons, and subsequently became the principal in the firm of Carey & Hart, which acquired celebrity for the issue of works possessing a high character for literary excellence, among which may be specified "The Modern Essayists," and Professor Longfellow's "Poets and Poetry of Europe." Mr. Carey was also a munificent patron of the fine arts, the walls of his mansion being covered with the gems of foreign and American painters. For several years previous to his demise he was afflicted with acute bodily infirmities, which he bore with a truly Christian meekness and resignation. Although confined to his residence, and often unable to move without assistance, he found a solace for all his ills in his ardent attachment to literature; and the opportunity thus afforded him by his sickness for the diligent perusal of the works of the most eminent authors, tended to increase his abilities as a publisher,—the public being indebted to his confinement for the publication of some of the most popular works which ever emanated from the American press.

Mr. Carey departed this life June 16th, 1845, in the fortieth year of his age, sincerely lamented by a large circle of friends, and by many who had, during his lifetime, been recipients of his bounty.

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## SAMUEL CARPENTER.

SAMUEL CARPENTER was one of the greatest improvers and builders in Philadelphia, dwelling among us at the same time as a merchant. He was probably at one time, if we except the Founder, the wealthiest man in the province. There is extant a letter of his of the year 1705, to Jonathan Dickinson, offering for sale part of his

estate, wherein he says, "I would sell my house and granary on the wharf (above Walnut Street), where I lived last, and the wharves and warehouses, also the globe and long vault adjacent. I have three-sixteenths of five thousand acres of land, and a mine, called 'Pickering's mine.' I have sold my house over against Daniel Lloyd's (the site of the present Bank of Pennsylvania) to William Trent, and the scales to Henry Babcock, and the coffee-house (at or near Walnut Street and Front Street) to Captain Finney; also my half of Darby mills to John Bethell, and a half of Chester mills to Caleb Pussey." Besides the foregoing, he was known to own the estate called "Bristol mills," worth five thousand pounds; the island against Burlington, of three hundred and fifty acres. At Poguessing Creek, fifteen miles from the City, he had five thousand acres. He owned about three hundred and eighty acres at Sepviser plantation, a part of Fairhill, where he died in 1714.

Male descendants of his name, or of his brother Joshua, are not now known in our city; but members of his race and name are said to be settled near Salem, in New Jersey. The Whartons, Merediths, Clymers, and Fishbournes, are his descendants in the female line.

James Logan, in writing to the proprietaries respecting him, says, "He lost by the war of 1703, because the profitable trade he before carried on almost entirely failed, and his debts coming upon him, while his mills and other estate sunk in value, he could by no means clear himself, and from the wealthiest man in the province in 1701, he became much embarrassed."

Isaac Norris, in his letter of the 10th of June, 1705, to Jonathan Dickinson, says of him, to wit: "That honest and valuable man, whose industry and improvements have been the stock whereon much of the labors and successes of this country have been grafted, is now weary of it all, and is resolved, I think prudently, to wind up and clear his incumbrances."

He was one of the society of Friends; was one of Penn's Commissioners of Property; was the chief cause of inducing Penn to abandon the original beautiful design of keeping Front Street an open view to the river.



## BENJAMIN CARR.

BENJAMIN CARR arrived in this country, and settled in Philadelphia, in the year 1797. He was a well-educated man as well as a composer of music. His education was begun under the celebrated Dr. Samuel Arnold, and completed under that great musician, John Wesley (one of the Wesley's, a nephew of the celebrated divine, all whose family were musical). He was one of the most simple-natured and kind-hearted beings that ever lived, and possessed a great fund of musical knowledge, and a power of musical taste and genius.

He was the principal conductor of the great sacred oratorio, "The Creation of the World," by Joseph Haydn, performed by the Musical Fund Society of Philadelphia, April 27th, 1824. Musician is a term often applied, but very little understood. What labor and what exertion it might take to bring that gift of heaven, a fine genius, to the perfection we witness in a Handel, a Bach, a Haydn, or a Mozart, perhaps themselves alone could describe. For, even a preparation for the musical profession in its ordinary purposes, is laborious, severe, and of years' continuance. It consists of a long course of rather toilsome studies, scarcely known and seldom appreciated by the world in general. Many hours are daily to be devoted to a rigid practice of the instrument selected for the musician's pursuits; and however he may subsequently decline this discipline, and thus cease to aim at being a brilliant performer, yet the whole of this preparation is equally indispensable, that he may know the character of his instrument and be fully acquainted with its powers and effects.

Mr. Carr was not only a teacher, but a fine composer of music, and his many works in musical collections, at the beginning of this century, exhibit him in this country in the same light that Haydn distinguished himself in Austria, England, France, and Italy, in his days of glory and renown. During all his life, Haydn was religiously inclined; so was Carr. It may with truth be said, that the talent of both was increased by their sincere faith in the





truths of Divine revelation. "When I was employed upon the creation," said Haydn, "I felt myself so penetrated with religious feeling, that, before I sat down to the piano-forte, I prayed to God with earnestness, that he would enable me to praise him worthily;" and many similar instances of devotion are related of Benjamin Carr.

A monument was erected over his remains in St. Peter's Church-yard, by the Musical Fund Society, of which he was one of the founders, in the year 1820, on which there is the following inscription:—

BENJAMIN CARR,

A distinguished Professor of Music,

Died May 21st, 1831, aged 62 years.

Charitable without ostentation, faithful and true in his friendships;

To the intelligence of a man he united the simplicity of a child.

This monument is erected by his friends and associates of

The Musical Fund Society of Philadelphia.

It was designed by Strickland, and executed by Struthers.

Mr. Carr was one of the most distinguished organists of Philadelphia; and there are many compositions of his, at this period, used in the Roman Catholic and Episcopal Churches of this city and elsewhere. He at one time conducted a periodical called the "Musical Journal." He was a brother of Sir John Carr, an Englishman of some literary reputation.

## ISAAC CATHRALL, M.D.

A PHYSICIAN in Philadelphia, studied in that City and in London, Edinburgh and Paris, and returned home in 1793. During the prevalence of the yellow fever in that year, and in 1797, 1798, and 1799, he remained at his post, and even dissected those who died of the disease. In 1816, he was seized with a paralytic affection. He died of apoplexy, February 22d, 1819, aged fifty-five years. He was a judicious physician, a skilful anatomist and surgeon, a man of rigid morality and inflexible integrity, and truly

estimable in the relations of a son, husband, and father. In his religious views he was a Quaker. He published "Remarks on the Yellow Fever," 1794; "Buchan's Domestic Medicine, with Notes," 1797; "Memoir on the Analysis of the Black Vomit," showing that it might be safely tasted, 1800, in fifth volume of the "Transactions of the American Philosophical Society; and a pamphlet on the yellow fever, in conjunction with Dr. Currie, in 1802.

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### THOMAS CHALKLEY.

MR. CHALKLEY, a preacher among the Quakers of Pennsylvania, removed from England to that colony about the year 1701, and lived there upwards of forty years, excepting when the necessary affairs of trade, or his duties as a preacher, called him away. In 1705, he visited the Indians at Conestoga, near the River Susquehanna, in company with some of his brethren, to secure their friendship and impart to them religious instruction. He died at the island of Tartola, in 1741, while on a visit there for the purpose of promoting what he believed to be the truth. He was a man of many virtues, and was endeared to his acquaintance by the gentleness of his manners. The library of the Quakers in Philadelphia was commenced by him. His journal and a collection of his writings was first published by B. Franklin, at Philadelphia, 1749, and New York, 1808.

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### NATHANIEL CHAPMAN, M.D.

BY S. W. BUTLER, M.D.

PRECIOUS as is the memory of the dead to those who were connected with them in their lifetime by the ties of consanguinity; sacred to them as is every item of the personal history of the departed, the public has a right to share in the possession of these sacred items and this precious memory, when the subject of them,





in his lifetime, was a public servant and benefactor. Impressed with this idea, the writer of this brief sketch has ventured to invade the privacy of family history, to lift the curtain that hides the past from view, to recall to the minds of the living memories of the departed which are treasured in the deepest recesses of the heart, that he may do something to perpetuate the memory of one who was long loved and respected, not only in the wide circle in which he moved in the city of his adoption, but by very many who cherish kindly remembrances of him, though long years have passed away since they knew him, and though mountains rise and oceans roll between them and the place where sleep his ashes. "The living know that they must die;" and the voices of the departed, who in their lifetime were benefactors to their kind, call on them to improve their time and opportunities, if they would have their lives held up as examples to succeeding generations, and leave behind them memories that shall be cherished.

Dr. Nathaniel Chapman was the second son of George Chapman, Esq., of Virginia, and was born on the 28th of May, 1780, at the family seat, Summer Hill, then in Fairfax County, on the bank of the Potomac River, about midway between the present site of Washington City and Alexandria, Virginia. His family was of an old and respectable English stock, his paternal ancestor, who came to Virginia with the first colony, having been a captain of cavalry in the British army, and the youngest son of a cousin-german of Sir Walter Raleigh. The family settled on the River Pomonkey, some twenty miles from Richmond; but the branch from which the subject of our memoir is descended migrated about a century and a half ago to Maryland, and fixed itself on an estate on the banks of the Potomac, nearly opposite Mount Vernon, which is still, we believe, in their possession. His father, however, went to Virginia upon his marriage, where he afterwards remained. His mother, Amelia Macrae, was a daughter of Allan Macrae, of Scotch descent, who early settled in Dumfries, Virginia, and employed his time and capital in mercantile pursuits, and left a large estate to his children.

Very little is remembered of the earlier years of the Doctor's life, except that in his very boyhood he manifested a fondness for books and a taste for literature, and soon exhibited some decided

poetical talents; for, when but eight years of age, it was thought by his family that he had successfully imitated some of the early efforts of Pope, and paraphrased some of the odes of Horace. Dr. Chapman was early placed at school, and, after receiving a common elementary education in the neighborhood of his father's residence, he entered the Classical Academy of Alexandria, founded by Washington, where he passed six years. He subsequently spent a short time in two colleges, though not long enough, as he has remarked, to owe either any obligation.

While yet quite young he became a contributor, over the "signature" "Falkland," to the pages of the "Portfolio," a literary journal of high character published in Philadelphia, and edited by the late accomplished and learned Joseph Dennie, Esq.

Dr. Chapman's medical education was commenced in the office of Dr. John Weems, of Georgetown, District of Columbia, with whom he remained a year or more. Dr. Weems was a gentleman of great professional eminence, and a near relation of Dr. Chapman's family. His studies were continued with Dr. Dick, of Alexandria, whose name is not unknown in the annals of medicine. He went to Philadelphia in the autumn of 1797, where he became a private and favorite pupil of the late Dr. Benjamin Rush, and went through the regular course of study in the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, where he graduated in 1801. The subject of his inaugural essay was, "The Canine State of Fever." It was written, at the request of Dr. Rush, in answer to an attack upon his favorite theory of the pathology of that disease. Dr. Chapman had previously prepared another thesis on the "Sympathetic Connections of the Stomach with the rest of the Body," which he afterwards read before the Philadelphia Medical Society. This contained the substance of his peculiar views on fever and other diseases, as well as the *modus operandi* of medicines. Immediately after graduating, Dr. Chapman went to Europe to complete his medical studies.

He remained about three years abroad. The first year was spent in London as a private pupil of the celebrated Abernethy. The University of Edinburgh, however, being the most celebrated of the British schools, he went thither, completed his studies, and took a degree. During his sojourn in Edinburgh, he became inti-

mate with many of the eminent persons of those days, among whom may be mentioned Dugald Stewart, the Earl of Buchan, and Mr. (afterwards Lord Chancellor) Brougham, then a fellow-student. Although Brougham was then quite young, Chapman perceived in him the elements of greatness, and in a biographical sketch of him, published in 1809, he predicted his future eminence.

Before his departure from Edinburgh, Lord Buchan gave him a public breakfast, on the birthday of Washington, at which a number of distinguished persons were present, when he took occasion to intrust him with an interesting relic, valuable from a double historical association. Lord Buchan had presented to General Washington, a box made of the oak that sheltered Sir William Wallace after the battle of Falkirk, with a request to "pass it, in the event of his decease, to the man in his country who should appear to merit it best." General Washington, declining so invidious a designation, returned it by will to the Earl, who committed it to Dr. Chapman, to be delivered to Dr. Rush, with a view to its being ultimately placed in the cabinet of the college at Washington, to which General Washington had bequeathed a large sum.

It was the intention of Dr. Chapman to have spent a longer time abroad, and to have visited some of the continental seats of medical learning; but the unsettled state of affairs existing in Europe, and the earnest solicitations of a friend who desired his company home, induced him to return earlier than he expected.

On his return to this country, his former preceptor, Dr Weems, proposed to him to enter into partnership with him in the practice of medicine at Alexandria; but thinking that Philadelphia offered the best chances for success, he concluded to settle in that city. It was in 1804 that he began his career as a practitioner in Philadelphia. His attractive manners and reputation for talent, secured his almost immediate success in practice. He became the favorite physician of a large portion of the higher classes in that city, a position he continued to occupy as long as he remained in active practice.

The same year he also began his career as a teacher, by giving a private course on obstetrics, which proved to be very popular.

In 1808, Dr. Chapman formed a matrimonial connection with Rebecca Biddle, daughter of Colonel Clement Biddle, one of the

most prominent and distinguished citizens of Philadelphia. From this connection, during a period of nearly fifty years, he derived the highest degree of domestic happiness.

The same year, he became associated with Dr. Thomas C. James as an instructor in obstetrics, with whom he remained associated until, on the 29th of June, 1810, Dr. James was elected to the newly created chair of Midwifery, in the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Chapman, however, continued his course of lectures successfully, and his connection with Dr. James was not disturbed by the event.

In 1813, the death of Dr. Rush took place, and Dr. B. S. Barton was transferred from the professorship of *Materia Medica* in the University to the vacant professorship of Dr. Rush, that of the *Institutes and Practice of Medicine*. On the 13th of August of that year, at the age of thirty-five, began Dr. Chapman's first official connection with the University as a professor, when he was elected to the chair of *Materia Medica*, left vacant by the transfer of Dr. Barton. This chair he occupied until, on the death of Dr. Barton, in 1816, he was unanimously elected to the professorship of the *Practice, Institutes, and Clinical Medicine*; which position he held till he was removed by death, on the 1st of July, 1853. His last course of lectures was delivered during the winter of 1849-50; and to the writer there is a melancholy pleasure in the thought that he was one of the last students ever examined by him for a diploma.

Dr. Chapman received many testimonials of the regard and esteem in which he was held by the students to whom he lectured and by his fellow-citizens. These are treasured by the family as pleasing reminiscences of the past. Among the first of these testimonials was a bust of himself, presented by one of the classes of the University soon after he began to lecture. The inscription on this bust is unfortunately lost. In the cholera epidemic of 1832, Professor Chapman had charge of one of the city cholera hospitals, located at Twelfth and Locust Streets. At the termination of the epidemic, Dr. Chapman, in common with the other physicians who had charge of hospitals, was presented by the city with a silver pitcher, in testimony of his public services. This pitcher, known in the family as "the cholera pitcher," contains the following inscription:—



TO NATHANIEL CHAPMAN:  
 The City of Philadelphia,  
 Grateful for his disinterested and intrepid exertions  
 In a period of public calamity.  
*Transcat in exemplum.*

The medical class of 1835 presented him with a valuable service of silver, consisting of two large pitchers, three waiters, and goblets. They bear the following inscription:—

Presented by the Medical Class of the  
 University of Pennsylvania,  
 TO PROFESSOR NATHANIEL CHAPMAN,  
 As a testimony of respect for his exalted talents,  
 And of gratitude for repeated instances of  
 Disinterested friendship and unsolicited favors.  
*Forsan et hæc olim neminisse jurabit.*

Not long after this, at the request of another class, Dr. Chapman sat for his portrait, which was painted by his friend Thomas Sully, and was, at his own request, placed in the Museum of the University.

There is another portrait of Dr. Chapman, painted by Nagle, in the Museum of the medical department of Pennsylvania College, which by some is thought to be a better likeness than the former.

Besides his duties as Professor in the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Chapman performed other labors of a public character. In 1820, during a severe epidemic of yellow fever in Philadelphia, he, with Dr. Thomas Hewson, had charge of the city Yellow Fever Hospital. He also, for a long period, gave clinical lectures in the hospital of the Philadelphia Almshouse. For nearly twenty-five years, also, he delivered a summer course of lectures in the Philadelphia Medical Institute. This institution, which is still in existence, is the oldest of its kind in the United States, and was founded by Dr. Chapman, in 1817, although he generously declined all participation in the fees, or control over the appointments to chairs.

Soon after his return from Europe, he published a work entitled, "Select Speeches, Forensic and Parliamentary," with critical and illustrative remarks, in five octavo volumes, which attracted much attention. In 1817, first appeared his "Elements of Therapeutics

and *Materia Medica*," which went through seven editions, one of them surreptitious. This treatise long maintained distinguished popularity among the works on *Materia Medica*, and now occupies a high rank as a book of reference. Of late years, Dr. Chapman refused to give his consent to the publication of new editions of the work, unless he could revise it. In 1820, he commenced the publication of the "Philadelphia Journal of the Medical and Physical Sciences," which he continued to edit for many years. The Journal was undertaken with liberal views, the Doctor never receiving any salary for his services. He was subsequently an occasional contributor to different periodicals.

Dr. Chapman filled numerous and honorable appointments in medical and learned societies. He frequently occupied the post of President of the Philadelphia Medical Society, in which he was a leading debater, when the floor of that society was a field in which the ablest members of the profession met in earnest and often vehement discussion. He was the successor to Duponceau in the eminent distinction of the Presidency of the American Philosophical Society, and was a corresponding member of many of the learned societies of Europe. Dr. Chapman wore those honors meekly, and, we believe, never made the slightest display of them.

The above, we believe, comprise briefly the main *facts* in Dr. Chapman's life. A few words in regard to him as a man, a physician, and an instructor, will close this sketch. Dr. Chapman was the Sir Henry Hallford of the United States. He was not more distinguished for professional attainments than for courtliness and vivacity of manners, wit, knowledge of the world, and literary taste. His private character formed a marked contrast with that of his friend and contemporary, Physick, with whom he so long shared the first rank in the profession of Philadelphia. Physick, who shunned general society, and was little known, except in professional intercourse, had a reserved stateliness of manner from which he never unbent. Engrossed by his patients and profession, he seldom entered into the every-day topics of life, and is remembered only as the skilful surgeon and successful operator. Chapman's temperament was cast in a different mould. Eminently social in disposition, with a gaiety of spirit that did not flag with years; a wit, a punster; delightful as a companion, and

enjoying company, he, for a long period, occupied a position, we may say unrivalled, in the society of Philadelphia. To these brilliant qualities he united the kindest feelings. His wit was without malice; he was frank, open-hearted, and open-handed. It is not surprising, then, that he was individually as popular as he was professionally eminent. He was emphatically the student's friend. With his heart and his purse always open, he was ever ready not only to impart sympathy, but more material aid, when it was needed. We remember to have heard, during our pupilage in Philadelphia, that Dr. Chapman's generous nature was occasionally taken advantage of by mendacious and unprincipled students. If Dr. Chapman had a greeting more cordial, or a grasp of the hand more friendly and earnest than another, it was reserved for such of his pupils as were from his native State, Virginia; as he ever retained and manifested a decided preference for Virginia and everything Virginian. This preference, however, was by no means carried to a degree of exclusiveness; for he was as much a favorite with the Northern as with the Southern student.

As a practitioner, Dr. Chapman was distinguished as much for the charm of his manner in the sick-chamber, as for skill and success in prescribing. His lively conversation and ever-ready joke were often more effective than anodyne or cordial. Indeed, in cases of trifling importance, the Doctor sometimes prescribed little else. In pleasant chit-chat, both patient and physician seemed to forget the object of the visit, and the Doctor would depart, and "leave no sign" for pill or bolus. In this connection, we cannot forbear introducing a single short anecdote which, we believe, is correctly attributed to Dr. Chapman. He one day received a hasty summons from a lady to attend at her house. On his arrival, he learned that her daughter had accidentally swallowed a shilling-piece, and the mother was all anxiety and trepidation, in view of the consequences. "Was it a *good* shilling?" coolly asked the Doctor. "Yes." "Well, then, I guess it will pass," he replied, as he bowed and retired.

But when roused by symptoms of actual severity, Dr. Chapman was almost as unequalled in resources as he was devoted in attentions. Hence, as a consulting physician, his great powers were particularly conspicuous. Rapid and clear in diagnosis, inexhaus-

tible in therapeutics, self-relying, never discouraged, he was the physician of physicians for an emergency. "As a lecturer," says Dr. Jackson, "Dr. Chapman was self-possessed, deliberate, and emphatic. Whenever warmed with his subject, his animation became oratorical. Often the tedium of dry matter would be enlivened by some stroke of wit, a happy pun, an anecdote, or quotation. He was furnished with stores of facts and cases, drawn from his own large experience and observation, illustrating principles, diseases, or treatment under discussion. His bearing was dignified, manners easy, and gestures graceful. His voice had a thorough command over the attention of his class, with whom he always possessed an unbounded popularity. His voice had a peculiar intonation, depending on some defect in the conformation of the palate, that rendered the articulation of some sounds an effort. The first time he was heard the ear experienced difficulty in distinguishing his words. This was of short duration; for, once accustomed to the tone, his enunciation was remarkable for its distinctness. Students would often take notes of his lectures nearly verbatim."

"His name," says the same writer, "is inscribed on the pages of the medical history of our country with those of the distinguished and memorable men whose cultivation and labors have advanced and illustrated our science. It is embalmed, cherished, and revered in the grateful bosoms of the thousands who loved him as a man, valued him as an instructor, and blessed him as a physician."

In the spring of 1850, his declining health made it necessary for Dr. Chapman to resign his professorship in the University, but he was immediately chosen by the trustees Emeritus Professor. From this time to his decease his health continued to fail, and he died on the 1st of July, 1853, of a slow and gradual decay, rather than of any positive disease.

## CHARLES CHAUNCEY.

BY HORACE BINNEY.

Delivered before the Bar of Philadelphia, August 31st, 1849.

MR. CHAUNCEY was a native of the State of Connecticut, and was descended from a line of most respectable ancestors originally from England. His father, Judge Chauncey, of New Haven, whom I had the pleasure to know, was distinguished for his professional learning and high personal integrity, and was held in great respect to the end of his life. One of his remote ancestors, lineally, I believe, though I am not certain of this, was the Rev. Charles Chauncey, the second President of Harvard College, Cambridge, 1654. It was a great pleasure to me, several years since, to refer my friend, Mr. Chauncey, to a treatise upon "The Benevolence of the Deity," written by a descendant of this ancestor, and of the same name,—a work which ably reconciles all the moral disorders apparent in the world with this essential attribute of the Creator, and which manifests the writer's deep reverence for a characteristic so habitually exhibited in the life and manners of my friend.

He was a graduate of Yale College at quite an early age, and was educated for the law and admitted to the bar in New Haven in 1798, at which time he could not, I think, have been twenty-one. His removal to this City was determined by the advice of Chief Justice Ellsworth. The selection of the bar with which Mr. Chauncey should become connected for life was referred for his opinion to this eminent man, an old friend of the family, and then Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; and, without hesitation, he advised Mr. Chauncey to come to Philadelphia. Mr. Chauncey's unnecessary modesty suggested the apprehension that the many men of distinction then at this bar made his success at it impossible; but Mr. Ellsworth's reply was, that this was the ground of his recommendation. He said it was true that the bar of Philadelphia was at that time the strongest bar in the country; but that, from this circumstance, it would supply the best models, and demand the more study and effort on his part, and that



his education and intelligence required nothing but these to carry him to the position he would desire to attain at it.

The advice was highly judicious, and was fortunately adopted. The bar in this City was certainly at that time a strong one, and it was natural that it should be so, Philadelphia being the chief City in the Union, and the seat of the Supreme Court of the United States. The men most distinguished at it were Mr. Lewis, the senior of the bar, Mr. Ingersoll, the two Tilghman's, Mr. Rawle, Mr. Dallas, Mr. Duponceau, and Mr. M. Levy,—men of high reputation for learning and great professional talents, and, as a body, exhibiting the finest examples of professional and private honor. It is, indeed, unworthy of any educated young man of talents to select a field for his professional career for the mere reason that it is at the time unoccupied by men distinguished in their profession, and who might for some time hold their position to his exclusion. Such men are the best masters for those who are able and willing to be taught; and the men I have named were remarkable for encouraging every young man who aspired to a place by their side. For both their example and their kindness I honored them while they lived, and shall continue to honor their memory while I live myself.

After a few months' attendance in a lawyer's office in this city, to acquaint himself with the local practice, Mr. Chauncey applied, as an attorney of the Courts of Connecticut, for admission, by comity, as an attorney of the Common Pleas in this county. But that principle was not then settled; and the President of the Court, the Hon. John D. Coxe, a very learned and excellent judge, but generally inclined to strict construction, doubted the Court's authority, and deferred an answer to the motion in such a way as to discourage the applicant. It was an anxious position for Mr. Chauncey, as it seemed to present the alternative of renouncing the bar of Pennsylvania, or of undergoing a second apprenticeship to the law; but he had the good fortune to have a warm friend as well as an astute one—and what young man of merit at the bar had not—in the late Edward Tilghman; and, upon his advice, founded either on a more liberal rule in the Common Pleas of Chester, or on the less precise mind of the President, to apply for admission, upon the ground of comity, to the Court of that county. The application

was successful, and his admission as an attorney of the Common Pleas of Chester County was the title upon which he was admitted to this bar in January, 1799.

It was at this time, a moment of much interest on his account to his young friends, that I became acquainted with Mr. Chauncey; and from that day, for more than fifty years, we have stood side by side in the most intimate relations, personal and professional, until death has separated us. I knew him well enough, consequently, to describe him as he was, if I were sufficiently calm and self-possessed to do it. I hope I shall not be thought to exceed or to fall short in the brief remarks I have to make in regard to such of his qualities as had a particular relation to the bar.

His good education in the law, together with his sound judgment, regular industry, true fidelity, and inviting amenity of manners, soon removed from before him the impediments which generally retard the advancement of the young members of a crowded bar. In a rather unusually short time his connections with merchants and traders in the city were formed for the collection of debts, and for the first transactions of business; and his facility and accuracy brought him enough to sustain him in his preparation for higher concerns. He was a student at all times, even when in the most active practice; and he continued to be so, not more from his love of the law, than from his conviction that he was thus performing to his clients the duty of an honest lawyer, which was his aim and also his achievement, if it ever was of any man. He consequently became a lawyer both well grounded and thoroughly instructed, and competent to the accurate investigation and skilful discussion of the whole variety of subjects and questions which arose at the bar, whatever was their abstruseness or complexity. The powers of his mind were distinguished for their strength and massiveness perhaps more than for their subtlety; but he never failed to discern and to enforce all that was of practical value to his causes, and to meet with the utmost directness and effect possible whatever the subtlest intellect might suggest to the disadvantage of his argument.

In his address to the Court, nothing could be more direct, perspicuous, and logical. He said nothing for the mere pleasure of speaking; and was generally, therefore, distinguished by a brevity, which left the attention of the bench as wide awake at the end as

it was at the beginning. The cast of his mind was judicial rather than speculative ; and, if he had accepted a seat on the bench, he would undoubtedly have left the reputation of an able and learned judge, and, I need not say, an example for universal imitation, of patient attention and research, of great conscientiousness, and of most perfect urbanity of manners. He was offered high judicial station in this State, at least once to my knowledge ; but he thought that a sphere of less public duty was the best for him, especially as it would draw him less from the domestic and social duties, for which he had a special election and preference, to the benefit and comfort of almost as many as knew him.

In his address to juries, Mr. Chauncey displayed, in a remarkable degree, the by no means universal faculty of speaking at all times to their perfect apprehension ; and, after he had become well known, his remarks had the inappreciable advantage of being received under all circumstances as the views of a man whose rectitude of mind made it impossible for him to trifle with the understandings, or to tamper with the prejudices of his hearers. No one ever knew him—I may say this with confidence, for I was with him or against him in his causes as much as any other member of the bar—no one ever knew him attempt to snatch an advantage for his client by artifice, or to gain his cause by pressing an accidental error of his adversary in the manner of presenting the opposite side. He was a model of honor, truth, and candor, in his whole professional career. If, in the opinion of anybody, he could have fallen short in any case by the nature of his qualities,—I never knew him to fail from such a cause,—it would have been in a case in which the excitement of the hour might have demanded a sharp or bitter philippic against an act of aggression or gross injustice. He felt as much as any man, and expressed, in his way, his indignation at such wrongs. They were the most remote of all from his toleration. But he had never studied the vocabulary of barbed and stinging words ; and his judgment, as well as his temper, induced him to reprove such transgressions with the plainness and moderation that were habitual with him in all things, and which, perhaps, after all, was the best way of dealing with them, both for his client and for the interests of justice. It is better in such cases to fall short than to exceed. I am not able, from my own experience, to



say that an advocate derives any advantage from the faculty of giving pain. Mr. Chauncey never gave it in his life, even by accident, without appearing to feel more than he gave.

I must, therefore, represent him as a most successful advocate, as well as a sound, well-read, judicious, and most upright lawyer; and his well-balanced and well-applied powers, both intellectual and moral, had the force and effect to establish him in his profession, after such a lapse of time only, as in comparison with his longer life, may be called short. His venerable father had the happiness to see his success accomplished, before he was called away. The example is of the greatest possible benefit to the younger members of the bar; for it is an example of the perfect professional success of a man of great modesty and gentleness, advanced to the top of his profession by a sound and judicious mind, by regular industry, by unsullied purity of morals, and by unaffectedly gracious and obliging manners. It is a cause of poignant regret to me that his son did not survive him to bear his name, and to enjoy and transmit the advantages of such a descent.

What I have thus said of Mr. Chauncey's intellectual and professional merits, every one knows to be true, without the least color or exaggeration. I have permitted myself in the very limited range of this notice, to express such thoughts only and in such language as are due to a man whose merits were too great to require, and my own sense of them too fixed and sincere to admit of, anything but the unadorned truth.

He was conspicuous through life in all relations at the bar and everywhere else for his good-will to everybody. Many men, it is to be hoped, resemble him in the principle and sentiment, without being so happy in the manifestation of it. But I think he was distinguished from all the men I have known by an habitual and unaffected expression of benevolence. It seemed to be a necessity of his nature that he should not only feel, but also show it, and show it to all, and in every way, by his looks, words, and acts. The gentle and gracious smile, the cordial grasp of the hand, the placid attention to all applicants for advice and sympathy, a serene and equal tenor upon all occasions, and active service wherever it could minister either relief or comfort, these were his characteristics, which all hearts acknowledged; in which, I think, I have never known



him equalled, and certainly have never known him surpassed. They also constituted his happiness; for they proceeded from principles of belief and motives of action that were ever reproducing in himself the pleasure and the comfort that he was imparting to others, and which secured to him the universal regard and respect of his fellow-citizens. I need not say how highly I estimate my own good fortune in having lived for more than half a century in the light of this most genial temper.

Mr. Chauncey died August 30th, 1849, aged seventy-two years and a very few days.

## BENJAMIN CHEW.

BENJAMIN CHEW, Chief Justice of Pennsylvania, was the son of Samuel Chew, Chief Justice of New Castle, &c., in Pennsylvania, who was a Quaker and physician, born in Maryland, November 29th, 1722. He studied law with Andrew Hamilton, in London. On his return to America, he settled on the Delaware, and, in 1754, removed to Philadelphia. Of that City he was Recorder from 1755 to 1772; also Register of Wills. The office of Attorney-General he resigned in 1766. In 1774, he succeeded William Allen as Chief Justice; but, being opposed to the Revolution, he retired from public life in 1776. Appointed, in 1790, President of the High Court of Errors and Appeals, he continued in that station till the abolition of the court, in 1806. He died January 20th, 1810, aged eighty-seven years. His first wife was Mary, daughter of Samuel Galloway, of Maryland; his second was a daughter of Mr. Oswald; she died about 1809, aged eighty-five years. One of his daughters married, in 1768, Alexander Wilcox.



## BENJAMIN CHEW, JR.

BENJAMIN CHEW, of Cliveden, was born on the 30th September, 1758, at his father's house, in the City of Philadelphia. He died in his house of Cliveden, near Germantown, in the County of Philadelphia, on the 30th April, 1844. He married 11th December, 1788, Catharine Banning, who came out of the houses of Calder and Murray, and that Banning who overturned a wain loaded with hay and soldiers, under the portcullis of Stirling Castle, and let in Bruce, in the year 1314. She brought him a large estate. His father, Benjamin Chew, born on West River, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, prepared for the bar, had chambers at the Inner Temple, in London, filled various prominent situations, was long Speaker of the House of Delegates of the three lower counties on Delaware, Attorney-General, Register-General, Recorder of the City, a commissioner in the case of Baltimore against Penn, and, as such, assisted in fixing the boundary between Pennsylvania and Maryland by Mason's and Dixon's line, Chief Justice of the Province, and, after the Revolution, President of the High Court of Errors and Appeals in the State of Pennsylvania; a man of singular talent and dignity. His grandfather, Samuel Chew, differed with *his* father by joining the Society of Friends, removed to what is now the State of Delaware, was Chief Justice of that Province, was disowned by Friends for charging a grand jury, when he heard the drums beat, during the French war, in 1745, on the duty of defending the country. His great-grandfather, Colonel Samuel Chew, came from Chewton, in Somersetshire, England, in the year 1671, with Calvert, Lord Baltimore, and two hundred other gentlemen, and their servants and effects. He brought large means with him. The name had been known several centuries.

Mr. Chew was very well educated; graduated with distinction at an early age at what is now the University of Pennsylvania. His classical attainments were preserved to the last years of his life, especially his *latinity*, acquired under Kearney and Davidson. He

always took great interest in his Alma Mater and other schools. He was a member of the Silk Stocking Company, although too young to bear an active part in the Revolutionary struggle. Soon after the peace he went to Europe; was two terms in the Middle Temple; was presented at court by Mr. Adams; went to Paris, where Mr. ——— presented him to Louis XVI. On his return to Philadelphia he was admitted to the bar, and practised for some years. His maternal grand-uncle, Joseph Turner, gave him "The Five Farms," a valuable property in New Jersey, one of five large estates which fell unto him.

He lived a blameless life, of princely hospitality and benevolence, doing good, promoting some charitable institutions, but bestowing liberal charities himself, advocating and assisting internal improvements of the State, and promoting the welfare of a numerous tenantry. He had a large family, to whom he was an ever-indulgent father. He was a firm friend, an elegant, accomplished, brave gentleman, of polished manners, of singular personal symmetry of form and features, and great strength. He was injured, in 1822, by a fall from his carriage, from the effects of which he never recovered, although he survived it nearly fourteen years, when he died, leaving an estate of above half a million, and many to divide it.

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### DR. A. CHOVET.

DR. CHOVET at one time lived directly opposite the "White Swan Hotel," in Race Street, above Third Street. He it was who, by his genius, professional skill, and perseverance, finally perfected those wonderful (at the time) anatomical preparations in wax, which, since his death, have been in possession of the Pennsylvania Hospital: those anatomical preparations, the very sight of which is calculated to fill the mind with solemn awe. In 1778, he advertised his anatomical lectures to take place at his amphitheatre, at his dwelling-house in Water Street, near the old ferry, to continue

during the winter; his charge, three guineas. Water Street then was the chief place of residence of the best families of the business class. This aged gentleman and physician was almost daily to be seen pushing his way, in spite of his feebleness, in a kind of hasty walk, or rather shuffle; his aged head, and straight white hair, bowed and hanging forward beyond the cape of his black old-fashioned coat, mounted by a small cocked hat, closely turned upon the crown upwards behind, but projectingly, and out of all proportion, cocked before, and seemingly the impelling cause of his anxious forward movements; his aged lips closely compressed (*sans teeth*) together, were in continual motion as though he were munching something all the while; his golden-headed Indian cane, not used for his support, but dangling by a knotted black silken string from his wrist; the ferrule of his cane, and the heels of his capacious shoes lined in winter time with thick woollen cloth, might be heard jingling and scraping the pavement at every step; he seemed on the street always as one hastening as fast as his aged limbs would permit him, to some patient dangerously ill, without looking at any one passing him to the right or left. In this, we have a striking illustration of the changes of practice. Here was an aged physician doing all his visits on foot; but now, all think they must visit in their carriages. Dr. Chovet was always spoken of as possessing much sarcastic wit; and also, for using expletives in his common conversation, in the opinion of those who spoke on the subject, to be neither useful nor ornamental.

An anecdote, strikingly illustrative of the latter, might here be given of the Doctor and a member of the Society of Friends, who had lent him his great coat to shelter him on his way home from the then falling rain. The coat was loaned by the Friend to the Doctor with a moral condition annexed; which, upon the return of the coat, he declared he had religiously performed, adding, in a facetious vein, a supplemental remark to the Friend, descriptive of an unusual propensity he found himself to be laboring under during the whole time he had been enveloped in a plain coat; having so said and done, they separated on the most friendly terms, with a hearty laugh on both sides.

Dr. Chovet was a most eccentric man; full of anecdote, and noted for his propensity for what is now termed quizzing or humbugging.

He was what was termed a tory ; was licensed to say and do what he pleased, at which no one could take umbrage. He one day entered the old coffee-house corner of Market and Front Streets, with merchants all assembled. On seeing the Doctor, they surrounded him, inquiring what news he had in that letter, which he stated he had just received by a king's ship arrived at New York. In reply to the inquiry, he said that the letter contained information of the death of an old cobbler in London, who had his stall in one of the by-streets, and asked the gentlemen what they supposed the cobbler had died worth ? One said £5000, and another £10,000, and another £20,000 sterling. " No, gentlemen ; no, you are all mistaken. Not one farthing, gentlemen," running out, laughing at the joke at the expense of the collected mercantile wisdom of the city. Another time, having been sent for by the Spanish Minister, Don Juan, who resided in old Mr. Chew's house in Third between Walnut and Spruce Streets, the weather being rather unpleasant, the ambassador ordered his carriage to the door to convey the Doctor home ; the Doctor, full of fun and joke, directed the coachman to drive by the coffee-house, which, as he approached, was perceived by the merchants, who immediately drew up in order, hats off, to pay their respects to the Don, as minister from a friendly power. The Doctor kept himself close back in the carriage until directly opposite the coffee-house, the gentlemen all bowing and scraping, when he pops out his head,—“ Good morning, gentlemen, good morning ; I hope you are all well ; thank you, in the name of his majesty King George ;” and drove off, laughing heartily at having again joked with the Philadelphia whigs.

Dr. Chovet is said to have cured some of the first cases of yellow fever in Philadelphia, in 1793. We have no account of the time of his birth or death, and must be satisfied with the foregoing particulars of his eccentric life.

## LOUIS CLAPIER.

LOUIS CLAPIER, an eminent shipping merchant of Philadelphia, was born in Marseilles, France, about the year 1765. When he became of age he emigrated to the West Indies, where he remained several years; and, about the year 1796, he arrived in his adopted country, and settled in Philadelphia, where he remained the balance of his useful life, and died in the year 1838, in the seventy-third year of his age.

Mr. Clapier was a gentleman of great enterprise and perseverance. He was, for a long time, engaged in the China trade, and until it became a worthless one. He at one time was largely concerned in the Mexican commerce, from which he soon withdrew, owing to its proving unprofitable.

Mr. Clapier was remarkable for his good memory, and unimpaired faculties, until his last illness. He was a benevolent, kind, and hospitable citizen, with an uncommon degree of humor and good nature; indeed, he was remarkable for his gaiety and evenness of temper. A widow and three daughters survive him.

He owned a large farm, or country-seat, in the neighborhood of Germantown, where he used to graze fine cattle, to the rearing of which he devoted much time and attention. His public spirit was liberal and laudable, and his integrity and uprightness, in all the transactions of life, honorable and exemplary. His sincere friendship and attachment to his adopted country, and the principles of its government, were truly patriotic.

The descendants of the last generation, who remember Louis Clapier, will recollect his amiable countenance and pleasing manners, his dry jokes and charitable actions. He was always the friend of the poor and distressed, and he left no neighbor possessing an unkind feeling towards him; he visited silently, and without ostentation, many a poor family, to administer and afford it relief and comfort.



Such is the brief outline of the character of Louis Clapier, a man and a merchant, who had few, if any enemies, but many good and true-hearted friends.

## WILLIS GAYLORD CLARK.

WILLIS GAYLORD CLARK was a twin brother of Lewis Gaylord Clark, and was born at Otisco, Onondago County, New York, in the year 1810. Their father had served in the Revolutionary War, and was a man of reading and observation. Willis, on the completion of his education, under the care of his parent and the Rev. George Colton, a relative on his mother's side, went to Philadelphia, where he commenced a weekly periodical similar in plan to the "New York Mirror." It was unsuccessful, and soon discontinued. He next became an assistant of the Rev. Dr. Brantley, a Baptist clergyman (afterwards President of the College of South Carolina), in the editorship of the "Columbian Star," a religious newspaper. He retired from this position to take charge of the "Philadelphia Gazette," the oldest daily journal of that city. He became its proprietor, and continued his connection with it until his death.

One of the most successful of Clark's literary productions was the "*Ollapodiana*," a series of brief essays, anecdotes, and observations, continued from month to month in the "Knickerbocker Magazine," of which his brother Lewis had become the editor.

Mr. Clark was married, in 1836, to Anne Poyntell Caldcleugh, the daughter of Robert A. Caldcleugh, a wealthy gentleman of Philadelphia. She was attacked by consumption, and died not long after her marriage. Her husband soon followed her, falling a victim to a lingering disease, in June, 1841, in the thirty-first year of his age.

The humors and sensibility of the essayist and poet alike witness to his warm, amiable sympathies. His mirth was rollicking, exuberant in animal spirits, but always innocent; while his muse dwelt fondly on the various moods of nature, and portrayed domestic

tenderness in the consolations of its darker hours of suffering and death.

“Unto the moodiest mind  
 Their own pure joy impart,  
 Their sunshine leaves a glow behind,  
 That lightens o’er the heart.”

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### GERARDUS CLARKSON, M.D.

DR. CLARKSON was an eminent physician of Philadelphia, and was the son of Matthew C. Clarkson, a merchant of New York, who died in 1770, and a descendant of David C. Clarkson, an English non-conforming minister of distinction, who died in 1686.

Dr. Clarkson was a popular practitioner as early as 1774, and died September 19th, 1790, aged fifty-three years. The Rev. Dr. Finley married his sister in 1761. John Swanwick wrote a poem on his death.

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### DAVID C. CLAYPOOLE.

DAVID C. CLAYPOOLE, an editor and publisher, died at Philadelphia in 1849, aged ninety-two years. He was, at one time, one of the proprietors of the “Pennsylvania Packet and Daily Advertiser,” the first daily newspaper set up in the year 1775. The firm was Dunlap & Co.; the paper afterwards went into the hands of Z. Poulson. The debates in Congress from the year 1783 to 1799, will be found recorded in his paper.

Mr. Claypoole was a gentleman of the old school, and, it might with truth be said, of the days of Washington. The Claypoole, or Claypole, family are said to be descendants of Oliver Cromwell, whose daughter married Lord General Claypole. William Penn, in a letter dated in 1684, to his steward, thus speaks of James Claypole, who was a merchant, a partner in the Free Traders’ Company, and a public character in Friends’ meeting. Mrs. Logan

said it was well understood that her husband, George Claypole, was descended from the Protector, Oliver Cromwell.

Mr. Claypoole, the subject of our memoir, was the printer who published the first edition from the original manuscript of Washington's celebrated Farewell Address, dated 17th September, 1796. He was universally beloved for his urbanity and generosity, and respected for his integrity, honor, and patriotism.

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## WILLIAM CLIFTON.

MR. CLIFTON, an author of fine poetical powers among the early writers of the country, was a native of Philadelphia, born in 1772. He was of a Quaker family, and his father was a wealthy mechanic. The constitution of the son was delicate, with a tendency to consumption, which excited the early exercise of his faculties. At the age of nineteen, the rupture of a blood-vessel led to his abandonment of any notions he may have entertained for active life; when he found consolation and employment in literature. His tastes soon led him to relinquish the Quaker dress, and he became a proficient in the accomplishments of music and drawing. He was also especially fond of field-sports. When Jay's Treaty brought out much unworthy opposition to the government, Clifton exercised his pen in support of the administration in satires, published in the newspapers, in prose and verse, on the demagogues. The longest of these satirical productions was entitled "The Group," in which various mechanics and tradesmen, Solon Verges, a carpenter, Nat Futtock, a shipwright, Gobbo Finis, a coffin-maker, John Stripe, a schoolmaster, with others, are represented as meeting for discussion on topics beyond their reach, respecting politics and the State. The coarse and vulgar material of low Jacobinism, which is not at all disguised in the poem, is occasionally elevated by the polish of the author's verses.

His death occurred in December, 1799, in the twenty-seventh year of his age. His poems were collected in a volume published in New York the following year.

## GEORGE CLYMER.

GEORGE CLYMER, a patriot of the Revolution, was born in Philadelphia, in 1739. He received a good education, and acquired a taste for books; but engaged in mercantile pursuits. He early espoused the cause of his country. In 1773, he resolutely opposed the sale of tea sent out by the British Government. Not a pound was sold in Philadelphia. In 1775, he was one of the first Continental Treasurers. As a member of Congress, he, the next year, signed the Declaration of Independence. In 1774, the furniture of his house in Chester County, twenty-five miles from Philadelphia, was destroyed by the enemy. In this year, he was a Commissioner to the Indians, to preserve peace and enlist warriors from the Shawnese and Delaware tribes. In this capacity, he resided for awhile at Pittsburg. In 1780, he co-operated with Robert Morris in the establishment of a bank for the relief of the country. Again he was a member of Congress, in 1780; but, in 1782, he removed to Princeton, for the education of his children. After the adoption of the Constitution, he was again a member of Congress. On the passage of the bill imposing a duty on distilled spirits, in 1791, he was placed at the head of the excise department in Pennsylvania. The insurrection made his duties sufficiently disagreeable, and he resigned the office. In 1796, he was sent to Georgia to negotiate, together with Hawkins and Pickens, a treaty with the Cherokee and Creek Indians. He was afterwards President of the Philadelphia Bank, and of the Academy of Fine Arts. He died at Morrisville, Bucks County, January 23d, 1813, aged seventy-three years. His wife was the daughter of Mr. Meredith. Joseph Hopkinson pronounced a eulogy upon his character. In his various stations he was remarkable for the punctual and conscientious discharge of duty. He had a delicacy of taste, and was attached to the refined pursuits of a cultivated and fine genius. The improvements of his country awakened his constant solicitude.

## SAMUEL COATES.

SAMUEL COATES was born at Philadelphia, August 24th, 1748, Old Style. He was the son of Samuel and of Mary Coates, by birth named Langdale. His family was from Leicestershire, England, near Melton Mowbray, and not far from a small village of their own name, in a forest district, and upon the little river Soar. In this vicinity, their name occurs in county records as far back as the reign of Henry III; the first of the name we have met with appearing to have been previously called Putrel, or Peuterell. They seem to have been small landholders.

Thomas Coates, the grandfather of the subject of our sketch, emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1684. He was a merchant, and very early took up pieces of land. He had been a convert, in common with nearly the whole population around,\* to the recent Society of Friends, or Quakers, which originated in that county, 1652 to 1654.

Samuel Coates was so unfortunate as to lose both his parents at an early period of his life. The provision made for the family was inadequate; and, while yet a child, he was taken in charge by John Reynell, a merchant of high standing, who was married to a member of the family. Under the care of John Reynell, Samuel enjoyed the benefits of a good classical and business education, the fruits of which never entirely quitted him. He quoted Cicero and Tacitus, with correctness and appropriateness, to an advanced age. Better than this, he had the advantage of a good example, a faithful training in a virtuous, discreet, and cheerful mode of life, and an introduction to business.

At nineteen years of age, he was placed in charge of a small commercial business, for his individual benefit, in order to habituate him to the necessary cares and attentions.† This continued till May 31st, 1771, when it was closed by the removal of the funds to a partnership with his beloved connection and patron.

\* Nichols's Leicestershire.

† April 13th, 1768.



August 14th.

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I received your letter of the 10th.

I am glad to hear of the

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In common with his whole family, he continued in membership with the Society of Friends.

In January, 1775,\* he was married to Lydia Saunders, daughter of Joseph and Hannah Saunders. By this lady he had four children, John Reynell, Hannah, Joseph Saunders, and Lydia, all of whom survived him; besides three daughters who perished in early infancy. He lost the bride of his youth in 1789.†

Previously to this, in 1784,‡ his beloved and venerated connection and friend, John Reynell, had closed his useful life. The firm of Reynell & Coates terminated, as appears, early in 1782, leaving the subject of our notice in business, singly, but under the auspices of the retired member.§

The labors of Samuel Coates are generally acknowledged by those who had the skill and opportunity for the formation of a judgment, to have been characterized by strict and severe uprightness, thorough method, particularly in book-keeping, great activity, prompt attention, determined action, and a cheerful and really kind temper and deportment. His success was, at first, moderate, but good; and he became a popular merchant. Although thus full of the energy and buoyancy of youth, and forming a part of the excitement of the time, he was one of an old school, trusted to old principles and examples, and feared innovations.

It is not the intention of the present biographer to attach any idea of universal or general superiority to this set of doctrines and men. Honor and wisdom are of no age; a just prudence in business is to be achieved by a combination of courage and caution; and while many of the best rules of commercial conduct are not only old, but of a high antiquity, the most enlarged success appears to require the activity and enterprise of youth. The subject of these notes entertained a deep and earnest reverence for the character and habits of his uncle, John Reynell; and perhaps it was difficult for him to select a better model.

In October, 1783,|| we find him in partnership with his brother, Josiah Langdale Coates. The documents now within the writer's reach do not enable him to state, with precision, how long the

\* January 12th.

† September 3d.

|| An invoice of October 13th.

† October 24th.

‡ Latest record in my hands, 3d mo., 5th.

association continued ; but it is believed that this was the case till Samuel Coates was engaged in preparations for a new business, principally the New England commission trade.

In the end of 1791,\* Samuel Coates was again united in marriage ; and, in this instance, it was to Amy, daughter of Benjamin Hornor, one of the earliest of our Market Street merchants. By this connection he had children, Samuel Hornor, Benjamin Hornor, and Reynell ; both the oldest and the youngest of his children thus preserving the name of his early patron and connection,—a compliment reminding us of that paid by Horace to Mæcenas.† Samuel, the eldest of these sons, died at the age of nineteen, from an inflammation of the lungs caught in assisting to extinguish a fire. The two others, as well as his wife, survived him.

The first entry in his new business appears September 3d, 1791. His principal connections were with Messrs. Moses Brown and the two brothers Bartlet, of Newburyport, then a place of great trade ; with Messrs. John and Curtis Bolton, of Savannah ; and with Mr. Benjamin Willis, of Portland. Later, he was connected with the early start of Messrs. James and John M. Atwood, both now of Philadelphia. The writer has repeatedly heard and seen the late Mr. Richard Bartlet evince the warmest regard for him ; and the friendship of the Messrs. Bolton was one of the comforts of his advanced age. He occasionally became interested in shipping business ; but was not a ship-owner.

The operations thus commenced were pursued with great activity for three or four years ; when the terrible epidemic yellow-fever of 1793, which caused the general evacuation of the city, and during which Samuel Coates took an active share in precautionary and charitable measures, was certainly well calculated to drive from the mind all thoughts of mercantile industry. This painful and formidable series of events was rapidly followed up, in his career, by a succession of public duties of an interesting and engrossing kind ; and these by the efforts and interests of a rising youth. Under these circumstances, Samuel Coates gradually relaxed in his attention to commerce, his funds were largely employed for the assistance of young men, and he formed no partner-

\* November 17th.

† Epist. I.

ship by which to reinforce his decaying activity with the spirit of youth and enterprise. The course of trade underwent the changes so inevitable in all ages, and so rapid in this country. New modes of action came into vogue, and new connections occupied the field; until the same event which has taken place with so many of our most honorable merchants occurred to him; and though he still continued to attend his counting-house, his business gradually became irregular and incidental, and finally ceased. Although he by no means accumulated a fortune, that integrity, so often spoken of in our day as a high sense of commercial honor, was so far successful as to lead to the complete extinction of every debt; and he had the satisfaction of knowing that his estate afforded adequate security for his remaining obligations, and a small residue for his family.

In 1822, cataracts appeared in both his eyes; and, in 1824, they became sufficient to disable him from writing. His old and kind friend, Dr. Physick, the celebrated surgeon, declined operating, on account of the enfeebled condition of the patient; and the latter remained for the residue of his life endowed with sight merely sufficient to find his way in safe situations. To this was gradually added a very considerable degree of deafness.

His final decline was slow and gradual, with an almost entire freedom from disease, and approaching to what is described as death by old age. For nearly a year preceding the close, he seldom left his house; and, for the last four or five months, he was confined to his chamber. During the last few months, he spent much time in sleep: at many times presenting the state of things ascribed to the advanced age of the celebrated Fontenelle, being in a state of almost entire unconsciousness during most of the twenty-four hours, but becoming clear and even bright for an hour or two before and after noon. This, however, varied very much on different days. The close approached, with no visible disease of a character to shorten life, unless the catarrh of advanced age be such. The termination dates 6th month (June), 4th, 1830; leaving a duration of eighty-one years, nine months, and twenty-two days.

We have premised the above outline of dates and facts with an attempt at rapidity. There are persons living to whom these have



an interest; but the most general share of importance acceded to the memoirs of deceased individuals relates to their connection with the events and persons who surrounded them, and, in some cases, to the character of the party.

The first great event of the adult age of Samuel Coates was certainly the American Revolution. The very idea of a revolution implies change; and the importance of the old and settled citizens, who are generally averse, as a class, to such mutations, is perhaps always diminished by them. The parentage, education, and examples above described, will not be considered likely to have induced Samuel Coates to take a part, direct or indirect, in the war. The care of the venerable age of his uncle, and, at the same time, of a young and growing family, was much more imperative and appropriate. In the civic opposition which preceded the appeal to arms, he actively co-operated, and was then called a Whig.\* But taking up arms against the acknowledged government of the country was, in his eyes, not only contrary to the religious instructions he had received as a Quaker, but a thing to be profoundly deprecated, as a means of destruction, ruin, and deep moral corruption to the people. At a later period, he urged repeatedly and earnestly upon his children that "a civil war was always the worst kind of war." It was also repulsive to him to see the same individuals who had made conspicuous show and clamorous professions of loyalty to a king, who had claimed a merit in so doing, and demanded rewards for it, attempt to continue the same career by taking up arms against the object of their former slavish idolatry, or, more frequently, by professions of peculiar resentment and abhorrence, and sometimes by abusive language, towards the same object. The problems of revolution, so familiar in France, seemed to him strange, and of doubtful morality and honor. He was also one of those who expected more of worldly prosperity to this country from a continued union with Britain, than from a bloody and demoralizing struggle. With this there seems to have mixed some feeling of being bound by professions habitually made and repeated, in common with the whole population, and then thought patriotic and honorable, of a personal attachment to King George the Third, as

\* From his personal statements.

well as of respect for the monarch's private character. On hearing him, at a later day, say something in censure of the fourth king of that name, a companion reminded him of his former avowed regard for the father; and the reply was, "This man he did not care for."

By those who view the Quaker principles with dislike, I may be excused for quoting Campbell:—

"Sad was the hour, by proud oppression driven,  
When transatlantic Liberty arose;  
Not in the sunshine and the smile of Heaven,  
But wrapped in whirlwinds and begirt with woes;  
Amid the strife of fratricidal foes.  
Her birth-star was the light of burning plains,  
Her baptism is the weight of blood that flows  
From British hearts, the blood of British veins,  
And famine tracks her steps, and pestilential pains."

Men of this way of thinking were called Tories. Those, however, who differed from the party ultimately victorious in their opinions of what was most consonant to principle and conducive to the public good, and who acted consistently, avoiding a civil war, must be widely distinguished from those who give assistance or information to an enemy; and certainly far more so from those who seek and gain the confidence of their countrymen, and afterwards betray it, subjecting their old neighbors and companions to slaughter, confiscation, fire, and cruel executions. These discriminations, the occasions for which are most happily so little known in the United States, are very familiar to writers on civil and military law, and the law of nature and nations; and the Quakers of the Revolution are unquestionably entitled to the full benefit of them.\* Some future day, could we imagine the efforts

\* The writer will not go into the discussion of the cases of Carlisle and Roberts. The traditional statements preserved in the most highly educated families differ very materially from the military record shown him by the late Mr. P. S. Duponceau. The present writer has heard, among the traditions which surrounded him, of but a single instance in which active treason was committed. The cutting off of one of Lafayette's convoys was here said to have arisen from information conveyed to the enemy; but, in this instance, the offender was a boy of fifteen years of age, enraged at seeing his unoffending father's property wantonly destroyed, after the troops had used all they wanted, and his family, including females, insulted. In this case, it is probable, too, that religious and sectional animosities promoted

now making to dissolve the union of these States to succeed, we may fancy the overpowered advocates of the present order of things within the seceding districts, proscribed, banished, deprived of their property, or, in scattered instances, scornfully pardoned at the intercession of influential friends. The world would ring with pæans to the patriotism and glory of the founders of the newly separated empire; and it would be charged as something to be concealed that a man's ancestor was an advocate of the retention of the American Union.

In the formation of the Constitution of the United States, and the organization of the Federal policy and party, Samuel Coates, as a citizen, united. He was too young for office, and too much occupied to be more than incidentally a politician. Like Logan, he rejoiced in the beams of peace; and sincerely hoped it might be long before his country witnessed another civil war. As a Federalist, he was persevering and consistent; and he attached great importance to these qualities in the case, fearing another dissolution of the union of this government from the measures of Mr. Jefferson. When asked to join in an expression of adherence to the policy of Washington, he avowed the highest estimate of the merits of that great statesman and commander, and the most profound confidence in his character; but added, that he did not approve of everything General Washington had done. When requested to specify, he alleged nothing but that he thought General Washington had been too severe with Major Andre; an opinion in which, as is well known, many very worthy and honorable persons concurred.

The Federal party was overthrown. The check sustained by the natural ardor of youth, when in a vanquished and proscribed combination, has, in the United States as elsewhere, frequently found a partial compensation in activity through new and unenvied channels. This may, perhaps, have contributed much to the persevering labors which have been bestowed upon the charitable and scientific institutions of Philadelphia. Still, to those who have furnished long labors, or liberal subscriptions to a great public institution of

the misconduct of the troops, and the dishonorable neglect of duty of the officers. No man will suspect Washington of conniving at this, or of neglecting any practicable means of preventing it.

charity or learning, popular opinion does not deny the praise of philanthropy.

In 1784, Samuel Coates was elected Treasurer of that old and honorable institution, the Philadelphia Library Company, one for long periods maintaining the largest library in the United States, and instituted in the infancy of our colony (1731). He succeeded Samuel Sansom, and held the appointment till 1793, when he relinquished it to take charge of the Loganian Library, under the same directors. This he held till his inability, from loss of sight, to keep account-books, was complete; the last entries made by him for the library bearing a date later than those in his own day-book; and betraying, by the absence and displacement of syllables, that he did not see what he was writing. His affecting final signature we copy:—

“PHILADELPHIA, 24th, 4th month, 1824.

“Errors excepted.

“SAMUEL COATES, *Treasurer*.

“Treasurer for upwards of thirty-two years, spent with the greatest harmony with all the directors; during which time, the valua[ble] library, to contain the books of the Honorable James Logan, was built by the city for the benefit of the city of Philadelphia. *Esto perpetua.*”

Samuel Coates was perhaps more known among his fellow-citizens by his exertions in and for the Pennsylvania Hospital, than by any other single means. On the 24th of July, 1785, when he was nearly thirty-seven years of age, he was unanimously elected to fill the place in the Board of Managers vacated by the decease of George Mifflin; and he took his seat on the 29th of the next month. He appears to have immediately enjoyed confidence. On the 27th of February, 1786, six Managers and the Treasurer being present, a special meeting was ordered to take place, at the house of Samuel Coates, on the 3d of the ensuing month. The institution appears to have been, at the time, in great pecuniary embarrassment. In an address to Governor Mifflin, dated 12th month, 28th, 1797, the Managers state that the Hospital had lost £10,000 by the Revolutionary War; a misfortune well understood to have arisen from the circulation of paper money. At the meeting described,



a committee, composed of Andrew Doz, Reynold Keen, and Samuel Coates, in conjunction with the attending managers, who appear to have been Nathaniel Falconer and Owen Jones, although the minute is imperfect, was instructed to report "on a plan of economy, and on the causes of the great expense of the house." They reported a method by which the outlay might be greatly diminished, and created a more thorough system of responsibility. On the 30th, Samuel Coates was the first named of a committee of three "to revise the minutes, and prepare for the annual election." At the meeting in May, he was elected Secretary by the Board of Managers, in the place of Reynold Keen, resigned. A thorough and extensive reform of the expenditures was now set in operation, extending through the greater part of the next two years; and some parts of the establishment received a judicious outlay of funds, in repair. A variety of methods were, at the same time, employed to raise money. Among these were popular lectures, by Mr. Webster, on the character of Washington, to be delivered for the benefit of the Hospital; a donation of the fees of those employed to sign a large emission of paper money; the proceeds of the unclaimed shares of the Pennsylvania Land Company, obtained of the British Parliament; gratuitous legal assistance in prosecuting the claims of the institution; (the attendance of the physicians was gratuitous, and the fees for attendance of students in the clinical practice of the institution accrued to the Hospital; the present of a family carriage, by Messrs. Thomas, Samuel R., and Miers Fisher, with permission to sell it; fines collected from the Managers themselves, for absence and late attendance; ground-rents sold the Hospital at thirteen and twelve years' purchase, and gratuitous services in importing books for the medical library. The habit became established of bestowing donations on the Hospital; charitable deposits were made in a box in the hall; fees were received at the gate; and the building, now considered as a place of antiquarian deposit and preservation, began to receive curious family articles,—portraits of eminent individuals connected with the institution, rare inlaid tables, others of large size and of a single board, and a carriage, with funds to support it, for the sick and insane. We find the Managers afterwards meeting at the house of Samuel Coates (June 2d, 1794), although I do not know from what motive.



It is the misfortune of reputations which are intrusted to unwritten memory, that adequate pains are frequently not taken to perpetuate them. Numerous incidents are so well known at the time they occur, that is taken for granted that this circumstance will insure the preservation of their memory, and that they are too well recollected ever to be forgotten. When ages change, it is often the purpose of many of those who succeed, to put out of sight the works and merits of the preceding time, and occupy the popular mind exclusively with the improvements in which they are themselves concerned. Modesty is, in this instance, a disadvantage; and this dependence on the knowledge and good feelings of his fellow-citizens has operated in the case of Samuel Coates. The great picture of Christ Healing the Sick, by our fellow-Pennsylvanian, President Benjamin West, of the English Royal Academy, whatever be the merit of criticisms passed upon it, can never be considered in any other light than as a very material contribution towards forwarding a taste and a school for fine arts in our State. The writer of this is possessed of a voluminous correspondence on this subject. Though the institution is deeply indebted, as regards this valuable donation, to the late Joseph Wharton, Esq., and to other gentlemen, the gift originated in communications between the painter, the late John Reynell Coates, and Samuel Coates.

In 1812, on the 11th of May, he was unanimously elected President of the Board of Managers, on the resignation, from the infirmities of age, of Josiah Hewes. Finally, on the 28th of November, 1825, in consequence of the same infirmities, Samuel Coates was himself obliged to present a similar resignation. Of this we present a copy of the minute made by the Board:—

“Samuel Coates, the venerable President of this Board, who has filled the station of a manager for upwards of forty-one years, and served the institution with zeal and ability, personally attended and resigned his seat, in consequence of his advanced age and infirmities. The Board regrets this necessity, and accompanies his retirement with sincere wishes for his health and happiness.”

He was succeeded, at the meeting in the next month, by the late Thomas Stewardson.

The ancient body, styled “The Overseers of the Public Schools founded by Charter in the Town and County of Philadelphia,”

which dates from 1701, and received three successive charters from William Penn, has long been viewed with great respect among the older citizens, both for its character and for the amount of good which it has done. It has been objected to this institution that it has produced no celebrated names. For degrees in celebrity it is difficult to establish a tribunal and code of laws capable of forming decisions in which the public shall agree. The school not only deserves the praise of being established early, nineteen years after the foundation of the colony, and of being a blessing due, not to the beneficence of any single enlightened individual, after whose memory it might be named, but to the public opinion of the Quaker colony at that time;—not only this, but for upwards of a hundred years it furnished almost, and generally quite, the whole of the education, other than strictly professional, of whatever has arisen great and renowned from the soil of our own State. This includes many professional reputations, many political, and some even naval. The forms, prayers, and clerical authority of most colleges, are well known to have disgusted the Quakers. Samuel Coates was “nominated and appointed” to this body, August 31st, 1786, and resigned the duty, from advancing years, June 27th, 1823; the late John Paul being chosen to succeed him.

We have alluded to the effect of the destructive and terrific epidemic of yellow-fever, of 1793, in diminishing his interest in private affairs, and directing his attention more than before to public and charitable service. His house was in the infected neighborhood; but, although he lived and spent most of his time amidst the disease, he was principally occupied with the Pennsylvania Hospital; which had pledged itself not to admit the cases, on account of the prevailing belief in their contagious character. The vacuum in public charity thus created, which was only classification, and was the execution of an ancient law of that Hospital, was made up by the use of Bush Hill and other places. Samuel Coates is favorably mentioned by Carey (*Short Account*, p. 27); served on a local Committee, appointed October 8th (*Minutes of Proceedings*, p. 49), and was Chairman of the General Assistant Committee from October 14th, (*Carey*, p. 95).

In January, 1803, an attempt was made to revive the Association to Promote the Cultivation of the Vine; and the name of Samuel

Coates was, in connection with the movement, proposed as Treasurer; but it was immediately withdrawn in favor of another citizen, whose claims to that confidence were higher—the late Isaac W. Morris, a family connection of the subject of these notes. In the same year, the latter served as treasurer of the very liberal subscription raised in Philadelphia for the relief of the sufferers by the disastrous fire which occurred, at that period, in Newburyport, Massachusetts.

In 1800 (Monday, January 6th), he was elected a Director of the original Bank of the United States; and was one of those selected to succeed the few members who were obliged to vacate their places by law. He was a director at the time of the winding up of this bank, in 1812. Of the commercial standing of this bank we shall again have occasion to speak. It has been thought interesting to insert the following list of the directors for 1799:—Thomas Willing, Elias Boudinott, Samuel Breck, Archibald McCall, William Bingham, Robert Smith, Isaac Wharton, Thomas Ewing, Jeremiah Parker, Edward Laurance, of New York, Abijah Hammond, of New York, Thomas Pearsall, of New York, Gerard Walter, of New York, James C. Fisher, Abijah Dawes, Joseph Sims, John G. Wachsmuth, Jacob Downing, George Fox, William Chancellor, John Craig, Robert Troup, of New York, Moses Rodgers, of New York, Jacob Read, of South Carolina, Harrison G. Otis, of Massachusetts.

Thomas Willing was elected President.

In commerce, Samuel Coates was the steady and consistent adversary of all extravagance and avoidable risk. He disapproved earnestly of all indorsements, except for value received in the regular course of trade. His ideas on banking were expressed to me in the form of maxims so aphoristic that I have thought them worthy of a special recapitulation. They will bear a curious comparison with some of the experiences of our later years. Many of the present generation are scarcely aware of the result of the application of such principles to the first Bank of the United States, closed in 1812. It concluded, if I am correctly informed, by the payment to the stockholders, first of seventy per cent. on their investments at par, and, after the payment of every debt, and the lapse of abundant time for the discovery of such, by the final

completion of the amount of \$127 42 for every hundred dollars originally subscribed.

The maxims, as I recall them, were as follows:—

“A bank cannot bear the shadow of suspicion; (emphatically).

“A bank is created to facilitate commerce, and has no right to exist for any other purpose.

[Manufactures were not in question at that time. I cannot doubt that they would be included, were similar opinions to be applied at the present day.]

“The proper check on imprudent management of a bank consists in a decline of the market value of its stock.

“No reasonable man will give money for the stock of a bank at any price at all, if it be used for any other purpose than facilitating commerce.

“Or, if it be a place that is not commercial;

“Or, if its capital be out of proportion to the business of the place;

“Or, if it meddle with politics;

“Or, if there be a politician in the board of directors.”

He pronounced the capital of the Bank of the United States of 1816, \$35,000,000, to be “out of all proportion to the business of the country, and out of all reason;” and predicted that “nothing but trouble would come of it.” He was offered facilities for subscribing to it, and had it in his power, but declined.

The solidity of Samuel Coates’s character was further indicated by his friendships. He was popular at the boards of the Bank of the United States, and of the Philadelphia Library Company. At the Hospital, he enjoyed great influence. He reckoned three remarkable men among his particular friends; these were Dr. Rush, Stephen Girard, and Dr. Physick.

This intimacy with the great American physician, grew out of the yellow-fever and the Hospital. At that time the Pennsylvania institution of that name held an acknowledged pre-eminence; and students came from a distance, in great numbers for the time, to attend the Hospital, as well as the University of Pennsylvania. The choice of a physician by the managers of the Hospital was acknowledged to contribute materially to his election at the University; and managers and trustees were heard to say of one



another, "They are men like ourselves." The long labors of Dr. Rush brought him frequently in contact with Samuel Coates; and they both had, in addition, a particular interest in the insane department. Dr. Rush made it a practice, for many years, to read his introductory lectures, a series of diffused and more or less popular discourses,\* new every year, to a private party at the house of his friend, before he adventured them in the public ear,—the present writer having the advantage of hearing several of them. He had also that of meeting several foreigners of distinction, brought to the house by Dr. Rush.

Dr. Physick manifested less inclination for social visiting. Deeply impressed with a sense of serious duty in the discharge of his professional labors, he expended upon them nearly all his time and energy; and, when able to recruit himself with sleep, had little inclination to go abroad. Besides this, he was not in the habit of preparing popular lectures, and was indeed devoted to the "*musæ æreiores*." In the discharge of duties, he was exact and high-minded to his friends as to all others; and it required long acquaintance to discover the tenacious friendship, the benevolent kindness to youth, the high point of honor never to injure a young man, and even the very extended studies which characterized this justly venerated citizen.

The friendship of Samuel Coates with Stephen Girard was of a different character. Girard was, at the time of its commencement, a very active philanthropist. It was easy for those who could afford it, to give money to the distressed and forsaken; but a much more formidable difficulty was to obtain competent persons, or, in fact, any person at all, to risk, as it was then universally believed, their lives. Many of the sick suffered most shockingly by neglect, from the dread of contagion; and the feeling in regard to service in wards of yellow fever patients, amounted to horror. Stephen Girard and John Connelly were represented to me as having been, for some intervals, the only nurses in the calamitous Yellow Fever Hospital of 1793. They spent their whole time in the building, attended the sick personally, fed them, administered medicine to them, and, at the same time, gave all practicable assistance and advice; and this was

\* Six Introductory Lectures; and Sixteen Introductory Lectures, &c.



much, to the external members of the Committee of Public Safety, who were obliged to volunteer on this melancholy service. In the frequent intercourse thus occasioned between them, near the beds of their sick and dying neighbors, their friendship was first cemented. At a later period, the attention of the great merchant could not be withheld from a director of the Bank of the United States; and the probity with which both that institution, and the private affairs of his new friend were conducted, was exactly adapted, as is well known, to confirm the respect and esteem of such a man as Girard. The Pennsylvania Hospital was in want of funds; and Girard, who, as we have seen, had freely exposed his life to what was deemed the most imminent and appalling danger, now contributed liberally in money. The conversations which took place on the occasions in which these aids were solicited, gave rise to some scenes of humor, which have been much repeated. The effect was heightened by incidents which cannot be transferred to a written page. "Well, Stephen, I have called on thee to see whether thee will give us something for the Hospital this year, to help us along." "Well, Mr. Coates, I will give you something, if you will put it upon a footing. You must put it upon some footing. If you will not put it upon a footing, I will give you nothing at all." "Well," replies the other, "I will put it upon a footing. If the affairs of my friend Girard have not gone well this year, if he has not been prosperous in his business, I will not ask it of him; but if he has succeeded well in his business, I will ask him to contribute to support the Hospital." "Ah! Mr. Coates, you have put it upon a footing which is quite sufficient. I will give you one thousand dollars." Donations as large as thrice the amount named have been made between these parties amid badinage of a similar kind. Various conversations of the sort were reported in the city among their common acquaintance; but they belong rather to the biography of Stephen Girard than to that of the subject of this narrative. Girard's confidence in Samuel Coates was, on this point, almost unlimited. "Mr. Coates," said Girard, during the pestilence of 1793, "you may give as much money as you please, in my name, to any but to my countrymen. To my countrymen you shall not give any; for I know that you do not love them; and you shall send them to me." This was a harsh or a sportive construction

which Girard put upon his friend's political partialities. In general a member of the Federal party, Samuel Coates, in common with that body, was deeply jealous of the French revolutionary influence; and his fears extended to the whole nation then suffering under that unparalleled series of calamities. These apprehensions were shared by no small number of the best and wisest of all nations. The dominant power in France was at that time preparing the murder of the innocent queen and of the Princess Elizabeth; and satiating its bloody Nemesis in the gore of the Girondists and other moderates. The United States were thronged with emigrants, many of whom had been originally engaged in commencing the revolution, now flying for their lives. A foreign head could not carry, what are even now often imperfectly understood, the succession and merits of the short-lived phantoms which stalked across the scene of blood; and that discrimination which their own countrymen would not make, where the lives of their most honored citizens were in question, cannot reasonably be demanded of the members of another Republic which they feared would become involved in the all-appalling whirlpool.

In character, Samuel Coates was cheerful and fond of society; often entertaining his company with stories amusing from their drollery, or, as age advanced, interesting for their local antiquarianism. We have mentioned his attention to business, and afterwards to philanthropy. His cheerfulness he retained nearly as long as it continued possible for him to communicate with those about him by the senses of sight and hearing. He was kind, as we have seen, to young men. His kindness extended to all objects; and he was fond of pets. He was given credit, by some of his friends, for boldness and decision. His intellect was strong and acute; but it was not applied, in his later life, to persevering tasks, except the Hospital. He was regular in his attendance at religious worship; but not extreme or harsh in any opinion or practice.

He so frequently urged upon his younger friends the maxim, "*suaviter in modo, fortiter in re*,"\* as almost to authorize us to call it a favorite with him. Almost the same may be said of "*rara temporum felicitas ubi sentire quid velis et quid sentias dicere licet*."

\* Motto of the Earl of Newborough.

In person, Samuel Coates was considerably under the middle size ; but of an athletic figure, with large chest and head. His hair was fine and of a light brown, till rendered bright white with age, and he lost little of it. His muscles were large ; but he was not inclined to corpulence. In his youth, he had been fond of active exercises ; he used long country walks till past sixty, and practised swimming till the same age. He suffered, in general, but little from disease. At a little over fifty-six, he was affected, according to the judgment of Dr. Rush, with angina pectoris ; pains extending across his chest to near the middle of each arm. This ceased entirely and never returned, under little other treatment than an almost total abstinence from wine ; a recovery, in the opinion of the present writer, somewhat remarkable. At a period a few years later, he received a severe bruise in the sacro-iliac region, by being thrown from a chaise. This was followed by pain which, for a few years, returned with changes of the weather, but which afterwards became unimportant. Until about the end of the century, he drank wine freely at dinner, as was then the custom. He afterwards restricted the practice to one glass a day ; and only omitted this on the occurrence of the illness mentioned above. He methodically executed a rule always to rise from table while still able, without repugnance, or the absence of pleasure, to eat more. This hygienic system, with its result, the preservation of almost perfect health to an advanced period, has appeared to the present writer worthy of record and remark.

The best portrait of Samuel Coates is the magnificent full-length by Sully, in the possession of the Pennsylvania Hospital, the splendid present of the liberal-minded and charitable painter. A spirited sketch, by Leslie, is in possession of his family. A portrait, taken in his youth, was destroyed in a conflagration at Charleston, South Carolina.

## JOHN REYNELL COATES.

JOHN REYNELL COATES, eldest son of Samuel Coates ; principally known as land-agent to the family of William Penn.

He was born at Philadelphia, November 22d, 1777 ; and received his name through the deep reverence and regard entertained by his father for the character of his venerable relative and friend, John Reynell, mentioned in the present volume ; a reverence which superseded, for the time, the claims of the father-in-law, and which did not even stop here, but induced the singular course of naming, after a long interval, the youngest son after the same exemplar as the first-born.

John Reynell Coates received his classical education at the great school in Fourth Street, under the incorporation by Penn. At an early age, he was set apart for the study of the law ; and was placed under the superintendence of William Rawle, then nearly arrived, in the opinion of many, at the head of the Philadelphia Bar. Mr. Rawle's calm, amiable, and deeply intellectual mind, with his profound and elegant accomplishments, found a fitting recipient of its impressions in the subject of our memoir, whose temper was analogous. The disciple completed his legal studies with credit ; but received, at an early period, the very important appointment of agent to the great Penn estate in Pennsylvania. This charge necessitated an intimate familiarity with the land laws, an extensive knowledge of localities, and the habit of dealing with men in all the difficult problems and questions, calling for firm and prudential action, which grew out of the refusal of various parties to pay quit-rents. This hazardous business, which, at a later period, and in an adjacent State, has given rise to actual bloodshed, was, in the present instance, to be settled by prosecutions and negotiations. It also required, during many years, the habit of making frequent, sudden, and long-continued journeys about the territory of the commonwealth, with temporary residences remote from his home. It is easy to discover that here was quite labor enough for an individual, and that it left but little vacancy for any other practice at the Bar.

The beautiful seat of "Solitude" was attached to the agency. At this place the subject of our notice resided many years; and nearly all his children were born there. It was, in fact, so attractive, that all the debasing process, so destructive to sylvan and rural beauty, which takes place in the edge of a large and rapidly-increasing city, has been insufficient to destroy its charms; and it continues, in the midst of newly marked-out streets, railroads, deep cuts, high embankments, malicious fires, and trespasses on timber, to form one of the most agreeable ornaments, as an object of view, to Fairmount Park and the adjacent portion of the river Schuylkill.

In 1801 (June 10th), John Reynell Coates was united by marriage to Sarah, daughter of John Morton, Esq., long President of the Revolutionary Bank of North America. By this lady he had three sons and a daughter, besides another who died in childhood, in 1806.

In the prosecution of his agency, he was twice led to visit England; where he enjoyed, during two long residences, the splendid and engaging hospitality of Stoke Poges, near Windsor, the seat of John Penn, Esq.

It is among the incidents of his career that he served several years in the City Councils of Philadelphia.

When past middle life, and verging to age, he resigned the Penn agency, which was then taken in charge by the late General Thomas Cadwalader. The subject of our notice found full employment in the care of a large and scattered landed estate, partly received by negotiation with the Penn family. This estate was an incorrect, but somewhat early anticipation of the present abundant prosperity of our city. Judges of acknowledged skill have assured the writer of these notes that John Reynell Coates's plans and operations were sound and judicious, but that they suffered by their number and intricacy, and sometimes by material interference.

About the year 1816 he visited Europe, with a view to assist in one of the attempts which have been at different times made to introduce to the industry of the United States certain improvements in the manufacture of steel. This must have been one of the earlier efforts. His tour extended to England, France, and the Baltic.

In declining years he again visited Europe with several mem-



bers of his family, and expended nearly two years in England, France, and Italy. During this visit, he was so unfortunate as to lose an endeared object of his anxiety in his only daughter, then married to Jacob G. Morris, Esq. This lady was attacked by the grippe, then prevalent in France; and the disease terminated in pulmonary consumption, under which she sank, at St. Germain's, near Paris, in September, 1837.

About this period, and probably during its continuance, were sown the seeds of the same malady in his own person, a change which proved the cause of his demise. During about two years he underwent a series of partial recoveries, followed by relapses; and these came to a close on the 22d of February, 1842. His three sons survived him.

The mind of John Reynell Coates was pre-eminently characterized by delicacy. Carefully subdued in the expression of his feelings, he was never betrayed by the intricacies and unexpected turns of a law-suit. In his professional labors, he was quiet, assiduous, and decisive, and dispatched much business. In society the same delicacy exhibited itself in a refined and sensitive politeness, that was never found wanting, and never wounded. It was not incompatible with an arch and lively humor, and an acute sense of the ridiculous, which added greatly to the pleasure of his society. He had made the best use of his opportunities. In the instructions and intimacy of William Rawle, and the affable and dignified ease of John Penn's hospitality, he had examples probably as correct and elevated as were to be met with in the atmosphere of a court. More than one or two of his cotemporaries have described him to the writer of this as the delight of all his acquaintance.

At an early time of life, he was one of those who were proud to reckon among their friendships the youthful days of Thomas Sully. He was attached to the fine arts; was a director of our infant Academy, and took much interest in it. He had a beautiful taste for sketching, and possessed much readiness. He could write poetry; of which the specimen in possession of the present writer is lively and satirical, but correct, and exhibits a flowing and melodious versification.

In person, he was of the middle height, and slightly built; his bodily strength not great, but capable of enduring much fatigue

and exposure,—his forest and mountain journeys having subjected him to several severe injuries. His health was generally unbroken, till the illness which caused his death. Among his intimate associates, his flow of cheerful conversation was copious and ready. In ordinary society, his words were fewer, and delivered with more forethought. His manner was always quiet, and his voice low.

We have no likeness of him but profiles, and a silhouette, made after death, by Edouart.

In opinions, he was one of those who, while they prefer the instruction of youth in some branches not encouraged by the Society of Friends, principally ornamental, nevertheless entertained the highest respect and a devoted attachment for that body, and inculcated as close an adherence to it, and as exact a compliance with its regulations and customs as it was possible, in his opinion, and in their cases, to observe without hypocrisy.

We have few or none of his original opinions to record. He was not only eminently a man of action, and one who little cultivated literary or conversational ambition, but the whole tone of his mind was disposed to severe training, self-discipline, and a thorough preparation for the discharge of duties, rather than to shining as an adviser or a critic for the benefit of others.

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## NICHOLAS COLLIN.

THE REV. DR. NICHOLAS COLLIN, of Upsal, was sent over to this country, in 1771; appointed to Wicacoe, in 1786; and died in 1831, at the close of the Swedish mission, in Philadelphia.

While Dr. Collin was rector, he had for his first assistant the Rev. Joseph Clarkson, from 1787 until 1792. The Rev. Sator Clay was appointed in 1792. Only a part of his time was given to the Swedes, for whom he continued to preach until the day of his death, in 1831.

The Rev. Dr. Nicholas Collin, who had been for some time officiating at Swedesborough, in New Jersey, presided over these churches for a period of forty-five years; in which time he married

three thousand three hundred and seventy-five couple,—averaging eighty-four couple a year. In the early part of his ministry he averaged much more than this. The number of couples married by him in 1795, was one hundred and ninety-nine; and in the following year, one hundred and seventy-nine.

Dr. Collin, during the whole period of his ministry, was held in high respect by his congregations. He possessed considerable learning, particularly an acquaintance with the languages. The only work which he left behind him is a manuscript translation of Acrelius, of New Sweden, which he undertook, in 1799, at the request of the Historical Society of New York, in whose possession it now is. He was a member, and for some time one of the Vice-Presidents of the American Philosophical Society; and was also one of the eighteen founders of the society “for the commemoration of the landing of William Penn.” He died at Wicacoe, on the 7th of October, A. D. 1831, in the eighty-seventh year of his age.

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## WALTER COLTON.

WALTER COLTON died in Philadelphia, January 22d, 1851, aged fifty-three years. He was born in Rutland, Vermont; he graduated at Yale, in 1822, and early became a preacher, and taught an academy at Middletown. In 1828, he edited the “American Spectator,” a political paper, at Washington. He was the friend of Andrew Jackson, who, in 1830, appointed him a chaplain in the navy. He was three years in the *Constellation*, in the Mediterranean. He was then chaplain of the navy yard at Philadelphia, and edited the “North American.” Going with the squadron to the Pacific, about 1840, he was appointed alcalde of Monterey, in California, and judge of admiralty, and established the “*Californian*,” the first paper, and built the first school-house, and first announced to our country the discovery of gold. He returned in 1850. A cold, terminating in dropsy, occasioned his death. He wrote many works:—“*Ship and Shore*, 1825;” “*Visit*

to Constantinople and Athens, 1836 ;" " Deck and Port ;" " Three Years in California ;" " Land and Lee ;" " The Sea and the Sailor ;" " Notes on France and Italy, with a memoir by Henry T. Cheever."

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## JOHN CONARD.

JOHN CONARD, Esq., died in Philadelphia, May 9th, 1857, at the advanced age of eighty-three years.

Mr. Conard, during his younger days, was much in public life. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and was one of those truly good men of the olden time who had the welfare of his country at heart. He was a native of this State ; resided in Germantown, from whence he was elected a member of Congress for the county of Philadelphia, in 1812, and held that position during the war, until 1815. He was so noted for his sympathy with the patriots of that day, and the eagerness with which he desired to repel the incursions of the British, that he gained the appellation of " The Fighting Quaker." After his return from Congress, he was made Associate Judge of the District Court, and was subsequently appointed United States Marshal by President Monroe, reappointed by President John Quincy Adams, and served in the same office two years under President Jackson. He retired from public life in 1832, and afterwards resided in the State of Maryland, until within a short period of his death, when he had taken his residence with his son-in-law, O. W. Lund, in this city. He was ever remarkable for his simplicity of character, and his benevolent, kind, and happy disposition, which, no doubt, contributed to his vigor, both of body and mind, and lengthened his days to a green old age.

## SPENCER CONE, D.D.

DR. CONE, an American Baptist clergyman, was born April 30th, 1775. At the age of twelve years, he was admitted into Princeton College, but at fourteen was forced to abandon his chosen course of study, and assist, by teaching, in the support of his widowed mother and family. He was engaged as tutor at Princeton, at Springfield, and at Bordentown, in New Jersey, and for four or five years in the Philadelphia Academy, Pennsylvania, under the supervision of the Rev. Dr. Abercrombie. His favorite department was instruction in the Latin and Greek languages, of which he had charge in the Academy at Bordentown. After five or six years, he found he could command but a narrow income, and sought other employment. He then adopted the theatrical profession, in which he continued for seven years, playing principally in Philadelphia. Abandoning the drama, he took charge of the business department of the "Baltimore American." A year afterwards, he became the editor and part proprietor of the "Baltimore Whig." In the last war with England, Spencer Cone commanded a company of volunteers from the City of Baltimore, and was present at the contests of Baltimore, Bladensburg, and Fort McHenry, but escaped in each without a wound. He afterwards became a clerk in the Treasury Department at Washington, where, however, he remained but a short time. His conversion to religion occurred shortly after leaving the "American," and was somewhat singular. He was baptized in midwinter, in the Patapsco River, then covered with ice a foot thick. The congregation of a small Baptist church, at the Washington navy yard, being destitute of a pastor, had no discourse on the Sabbath, but held their prayer-meetings instead: he was invited to lead one of these gatherings, when it suddenly flashed upon his mind that he had a call to preach the Gospel. He wrote to Baltimore for a letter of dismissal, and immediately entered upon the solemn duties of his sacred office. In 1815, a few weeks after his ordination, he became chaplain to Congress; in 1816, he was acting as pastor of the Baptist Church in Alexandria, D. C.; in May, 1823,



he removed to New York, and there occupied the pulpit of the Oliver Street Church for a period of eighteen years. On July 1st, 1841, by a unanimous vote of the First Baptist Church, he received a call from that congregation, and continued to fulfil the duties as its pastor until his death. In 1836, Dr. Cone was chosen President of the American and Foreign Bible Society, and occupied that position for thirteen years. He was also identified with the cause of Baptist Missions, and for nine years was President of the Triennial Convention, a body which, at that period, embraced representatives from all the States in the Union. He was subsequently connected with the "New Version" movement, which produced a division in the Baptist Bible Society, and resulted in establishing the "American Bible Union," of which he was the chosen President. Dr. Cone was one of the most popular pulpit orators in the United States. His person was commanding, his manners graceful and winning, his countenance handsome and impressive. He had a peculiar facility for managing large public assemblies, and was eminently popular outside of the Church. His voice had uncommon power, flexibility, and sonorousness; and he possessed great power over the hearts of his auditory, by his surpassing command of the art of declamation, the quickness of his conception of ideas, and the rich coloring which was thrown over them by his great wealth of imagination. Dr. Cone died in August, 1855, in the seventy-first year of his age.

### COMMODORE DAVID CONNER.

AFTER long and honorable service in war and peace, COMMODORE DAVID CONNER departed this life, at Philadelphia, on the 20th March, 1856.

An actor in the brilliant achievements of the war with Great Britain, and in the arduous naval operations of the war with Mexico, his personal history is connected with the events that have most redounded to the honor of the American Navy. His career, too, presents an example so well worthy of emulation, that a sketch of it,—brief, but less imperfect than the notices which have hitherto



appeared through the press,—may not be unacceptable to his profession and to the public.

He was of Irish descent. His family emigrated to this country about the middle of the last century; and, after passing some years in the city of Philadelphia, settled in the valley of Wyoming, in the State of Pennsylvania. Escaping narrowly from the massacre by which that beautiful region was desolated, the parents of Conner took refuge at Harrisburg, where, many years after, he was born, in 1792. After the death of his father, he came to Philadelphia, in 1806, being then in his fifteenth year. He entered the counting-house of Major Dennis, in that city, and in the intervals of business found time to complete a course of liberal studies. He made considerable progress in French and mathematics, and acquired those habits of industry, precision, and attention to minute details, that are perhaps nowhere better learned than in the mercantile profession. A voyage which he made about this period to the West Indies, probably developed an inclination for the sea, and he applied for an appointment in the navy, which he received on the 16th of January, 1809, and performed his first cruise in the frigate *President*. He there made so favorable an impression upon his commander, Captain Bainbridge, that, when that officer, soon after, took charge of a merchant vessel for a voyage to Russia, he appointed Conner to be his first mate. The most striking incident of the voyage was their capture by a Danish privateer. They were soon, however, released, through the intervention of the friends of Bainbridge. In a second voyage in the merchant service, Conner was shipwrecked upon Sable Island. Returning to the United States, he was ordered to the sloop-of-war *Hornet*, Captain Lawrence, in August, 1811, and was an acting lieutenant of that ship when war was declared against Great Britain in 1812. Soon after, Commodore Rogers, with a squadron to which the *Hornet* was attached, put to sea, with the design of intercepting a fleet of merchantmen from Jamaica. A few vessels were captured, in one of which Conner was placed in charge as prize-master. Before reaching the United States the prize was retaken by a British sloop-of-war, and carried into St. John's. In a short time, however, Conner was liberated by exchange, and joined his ship at New York.

In the month of October, of the same year, the *Hornet*, with the

Constitution, sailed from Boston, forming, with the Essex, which did not join them, a squadron under the command of Commodore Bainbridge. Arriving off St. Salvador, they found there a vessel of about equal force to the Hornet, the British sloop-of-war Bonne Citoyenne. As she was sheltered from capture by the immunities of a neutral port, the American officers, in their eagerness to measure strength with the enemy, offered the inducement of an equal contest with the Hornet. Captain Lawrence addressed a proposal to that effect to the British commander, through the consuls of their respective nations, and Bainbridge added a pledge that the Constitution should take no part in the action. For declining this overture the captain of the Bonne Citoyenne offered no better reason than a pretended distrust of the good faith of Commodore Bainbridge. This flimsy pretext was soon removed by the departure of the Constitution, and the Hornet alone for eighteen days continued the blockade, till it was raised by the appearance of a British seventy-four, from which the Hornet sailed away in the night.

Continuing his cruise, Captain Lawrence, off the Demerara River, encountered, and after a sharp action captured, the British sloop-of-war Peacock. Conner was distinguished for gallantry during the engagement, and not less distinguished for humanity when it was over. The hull of the Peacock was so riddled with shot, that she was found to be in danger of sinking before her crew could be removed. Conner, in command of the boats, made the most strenuous exertions for the relief of those who, so lately enemies, were now the objects of the kindest solicitude. While he was still on the deck of the British vessel she suddenly went down. With great presence of mind, he sprang into a boat which was lying upon the booms; fortunately it floated, while the wreck sunk into the bosom of the deep, carrying down in it three American and nine British sailors.

From this cruise the Hornet returned to the United States, in March, 1813. Lawrence was promoted and transferred to the Chesapeake; James Biddle, then a Master Commandant, was ordered to the Hornet, and she was attached to the squadron of Commodore Decatur. Soon after leaving New York, the Hornet, with the frigates United States and Macedonian, fell in with a

superior British force, which chased them into the harbor of New London, where they were for a long time closely blockaded. There again took place an ineffectual negotiation for a challenge-fight. Biddle was sent by Commodore Decatur to propose a meeting between the United States and the Macedonian, and the Statira and Endymion frigates. But it was found impossible to arrive at an adjustment of terms acceptable to the respective commanders, Decatur and Sir Thomas Hardy. Biddle did succeed, however, in arranging the preliminaries for an encounter between his own ship, the Hornet, and the Loup Cervier, a ship of the same class, commanded by Captain Mengs. The conditions for the meeting, however, did not receive the unqualified approval of Commodore Decatur, and, when his modification of them was forwarded for the consideration of the British Admiral, he cut short the discussion by ordering the Loup Cervier away from the station. All the officers and the crew of the Hornet may be said to have been parties to this effort to secure a meeting with the enemy; for Biddle had deemed it a point of duty to them to obtain their assent to his overture, as it was his declared opinion that in such a conflict a surrender would not, in any extremity, be consistent with the national honor.

The blockade had now been protracted for seventeen months, and, the United States Government deeming it impossible for their ships to evade the watchfulness of the enemy, the order was given that they should be dismantled and hauled up the river. At the urgent solicitation of her commander, the Hornet was excepted from this order, and permission was accorded for an attempt at escape. Conner now held the position of first lieutenant of the ship. On the 18th of November, 1814, at the dead of night, with every sound hushed and every light extinguished, the Hornet put to sea; and, passing unnoticed through the British squadron, soon reached the harbor of New York. About two months later, under the same officers, she proceeded upon a cruise to the East Indies, and, near the island of Tristan D'Acunha, met the British sloop-of-war Penguin, a ship of the same size and weight of metal. The first gun fired from the Hornet was pointed by Lieutenant Conner. In no other action of the war was there so complete an equality in force, and the contest was maintained with great spirit on both



sides for twenty-two minutes, when the British ship surrendered. During the conflict, Conner was shot through the body,—a wound so severe and dangerous that his life was despaired of. He was also struck in the hand by a musket-ball. Though disabled, he refused to quit his post upon the deck till entirely exhausted by the loss of blood. So effective had been the fire of the *Hornet* in this action, that her prize was found to be too much injured in her masts and hull to admit of being sent to the United States. She was, therefore, scuttled.

Soon after, the *Hornet* was chased for three days by a British seventy-four; but, through extraordinary exertions and the resort to every means of lightening the ship, she escaped, though brought several times within range of the guns of her pursuer. Arriving at St. Salvador, news was heard of the ratification of a peace with Great Britain.

On his return to the United States, Lieutenant Conner received from his fellow-citizens, from Congress, and from his native State the honors due to his distinguished services. A sword was voted to him by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, with the following resolutions expressive of “the high sense which the Government of the Commonwealth entertained of his good conduct and intrepidity.”

“Whereas, during the late war, two of the most brilliant exploits of our naval forces were displayed in the actions fought between the United States sloop-of-war *Hornet* and his Britannic Majesty’s ship *Peacock* and sloop-of-war *Penguin*, and which terminated in the conquest and capture of the enemy in each case; and whereas, David Conner, a native and citizen of the State of Pennsylvania, and now a Master Commandant in the naval service of the United States, was acting lieutenant in the first action, and first lieutenant in the second, and was eminently conspicuous in both for good conduct and intrepidity, maintaining his post, in the last battle, until exhausted by loss of blood from a desperate wound received while victory was yet unsecured; and whereas, the State of Pennsylvania has never been backward, on any proper occasion, to acknowledge the pride she takes in bestowing on her native sons the noblest reward of heroic deeds, the honorable distinction of their country’s approbation,

"Therefore, Be it unanimously resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, that the Governor be and he is hereby requested to communicate to Captain Conner the high sense the Government of this commonwealth entertains for his good conduct and intrepidity displayed in the engagements cited in the preamble accompanying this resolution, and likewise to procure for, and present to him, in the name of this commonwealth, an appropriate sword, the expense of which shall not exceed the sum of four hundred dollars.

(Signed),

"JOSEPH RITNER,

"Speaker of the House of Representatives.

"ALEXANDER MAHAN,

"Speaker of the Senate.

"Approved the twenty-fifth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six.

"J. ANDREW SHULTZE."

The limits of this sketch will not permit us even to enumerate the various duties discharged by him in the ordinary routine of his profession. He held important commands on all the principal naval stations, and exhibited, on several occasions, the diplomatic talent and extensive knowledge of international law which is often required by the American naval officer in the exercise of his functions. It has been asserted by competent judges that the correspondence of Commodore Conner from foreign stations would compare favorably with that of highly accomplished diplomatists. But while the reports of the officers of the army upon ordinary occasions are often to be found printed among the Public Documents, the most important communications from naval officers upon topics of national interest are for the most part consigned to oblivion in the archives of the Navy Department. This we can only attribute to the peculiar advantage of the land service in possessing, in the Adjutant-General's Department, an organization controlled by those who have a close and permanent connection with the interests confided to them.

At various periods of his life he held shore stations of importance among others those of Naval Commissioner and Chief of the Bureau of Construction.

To his last service performed afloat, a somewhat more extended notice is due. In November, 1843, he was appointed to succeed Commodore Stewart in the command of the home squadron. In the latter period of his term of service, the unsettled state of our relations with Mexico induced the Government to concentrate in the Gulf a larger force than had ever before assembled under the pennant of a single American commodore. To the demands of his position, Conner was found to be fully equal. In wielding and disciplining his fleet, in the preparation of his plans, and in their prompt and vigorous execution, he proved that the American navy affords a sphere of practice not too limited to qualify its officers for the most extended commands.

In expectation of war, Conner prepared with sedulous care and forethought the necessary measures for its prosecution. No sooner was it declared to exist by the resolutions of Congress, than the trade of Mexico was annihilated and all her eastern ports effectually blockaded. Much was necessarily intrusted to the discretion of the commanding officer on the spot, and to the last hour of his service there Conner enjoyed and completely justified the confidence of his Government.

In his despatch of May 13th, 1846, the Secretary of the Navy writes: "Your own intimate acquaintance with the condition of Mexico will instruct you best what measures to pursue in addition to those suggested by the Department." In the same despatch he adds: "The Department does not suppose your force adequate to attempt the capture of St. Juan de Ulua."

In all the operations of Commodore Conner the exercise of the rights of a belligerent was tempered by the moderation and humanity that should characterize the warfare of a civilized nation. Ample time was given for the withdrawal of neutral vessels; British mail steamers were not interrupted in their transit; private property on the adjacent coast was respected; and, by the special directions of Conner, a liberal exemption from capture was allowed to the small craft and fishing vessels that plied their humble trade along the shore.

He was careful, too, of the just rights of neutral powers, to the entire satisfaction of their representatives. On this point the sense

of obligation to him is well expressed in a letter from the senior British naval officer on the station, who says:—

“Permit me, before you leave the Gulf of Mexico, to express my sense of the kind and considerate courtesy with which my countrymen have invariably been treated by you while commanding the United States naval forces. Although ever strict in maintaining your just belligerent rights, you have, sir, caused the evils necessarily attendant on a state of warfare to fall as lightly as possible on the subjects of neutral nations, and in prosecuting the war against your enemy, you have contrived to win even his gratitude by having on every possible occasion mercifully spared the poor and helpless.”

One of the earliest measures of Commodore Conner was to open regular channels of communication with the interior of Mexico, through which was transmitted to him the earliest intelligence of the movements of the enemy. For information thus obtained, both Taylor and Scott were greatly indebted to him, as is frequently acknowledged in their correspondence, since published among the executive documents of the year 1847. Nor was this the limit of the aid afforded by him to those distinguished officers. The assistance of his vessels was lent in the first movement of the army to the position that was afterwards called Fort Brown. When Taylor's communications with the mouth of the Rio Grande and his depots there were threatened by the enemy, Conner appeared off the Brazos and landed a force of seamen and marines for the defence of the menaced positions; and subsequently boats and men from his squadron co-operated in the movement upon the town of Matamoras.

He afterwards took, and, under the directions of the Government, permanently occupied Tampico; and, by his orders, Commodore Perry captured Tabasco, which was afterwards abandoned.

A movement against the town of Alvarado, which was frustrated by an accident, was, we believe, the only instance of a miscarriage in any of his operations. The town is about ten miles up a river of the same name, a narrow and rapid stream, the mouth of which is protected by a bar, passable only to vessels of light draught. The town was well fortified, and an eight-gun battery commanded the entrance to the river. At about one o'clock P. M., on the 16th Oc-



tober, the wind for the first time permitting, an attempt was made to cross the bar with two small steamers, towing after them a flotilla of boats. Commodore Conner in person led the way in the Vixen, drew the fire of the enemy's battery, and passed over the bar. But the steamer that was to follow was less successful, grounding on the bar with all the boats attached to her, and it was not till near sunset that they could be extricated from their position. This occurrence disconcerted a plan which was well laid, and, as to Conner's individual share in it, gallantly executed. On investigation it appeared that the draught of the second steamer, which was from the revenue service, had been misrepresented to the Commodore, and this mistake was the occasion of the accident. Subsequently the Mexican military force evacuated the place, and the civil authorities at a later period surrendered it to Lieutenant Hunter without making any resistance.

The intention of a naval attack upon the castle of St. Juan de Ulua had never been deliberately entertained by the Government. Much as it was desired by the navy, the *eclat* of success would not have compensated for the unnecessary waste of life and material; since it was evident that the fort was a dependency of the town, which offered an easy triumph to a land attack.

For the landing of troops for this purpose it became the duty of Conner to prepare, and we venture to assert that there never was an enterprise of a similar character conducted with more consummate ability, or in which a larger share of credit was due to the personal exertions of the officer in command. By the beginning of March, all his preparations were completed. On the 6th of that month he received General Scott on board a small steamer, and proceeded with him upon an extended reconnoissance of the castle and the adjacent coast. The point of landing previously selected by Commodore Conner received General Scott's approval; the completeness of all the arrangements obviated every cause of delay; and on the 9th, in his flag-ship, the Raritan, crowded with troops, Conner led the way to the point chosen for the descent. As the ships anchored, the surf-boats, manned by sailors, ranged alongside, and, receiving their apportioned complements, moved in a semi-circle towards the shore, under the protection of the guns of the smaller vessels anchored in line close in to the beach. By ten



o'clock that night, without a single mistake or casualty, eleven thousand men stood armed and equipped for war upon the soil of the enemy.

Commodore Conner's term of service in the Gulf of Mexico had already exceeded by some months the usual limit of three years. While he was busily preparing to co-operate in the attack on Vera Cruz the order appointing his successor reached him. He had already proffered to General Scott the aid of a naval battery (which afterwards rendered most efficient service), and had marked with buoys the line of approach for the fleet of gunboats and small steamers which, for the purpose of a diversion, was to assail the castle. The expediency of his completing what he had thus begun might have furnished many reasons for the protraction of his command till its termination should be graced with a new triumph. But it was not in the nature of Conner to strip a comrade of a single laurel. It was for him, as the senior officer, to decide upon the proper time for turning over his command; he decided to do so instantly. Issuing a touching farewell to his officers and men, he left what had been to him a scene of toil and anxiety, to which had been added the severest physical suffering. Upon a constitution naturally robust, but impaired by the lasting effects of the wound which he had received in 1815, an unhealthy climate and close confinement on shipboard had told with fearful effect.

On his return to his home his fellow-citizens greeted him with a public welcome, he was elected an honorary member of the Society of the Cincinnati, and his merits were properly acknowledged by the Government.

In Philadelphia he passed the remainder of his life, for a time in command of the navy yard in that city. His death occurred, as we have mentioned at the beginning of this sketch, on the 20th day of March, 1856, and he was interred with military honors in Christ churchyard.

Through a long and active career he maintained a character that was never clouded by even a breath of detraction. His habits conformed to the highest standard of propriety; his personal rectitude and nice sense of honor imparted an elevated tone to all his sentiments and conduct; of no man can it be said more truly that he lived "without fear and without reproach." His just and conside-

rate treatment of his subordinates secured alike their affection and respect. To him his junior officers were gentlemen, entitled to hold, and at proper times to express opinions, which he oftener corrected by his superior judgment than controlled by his superior rank. He was completely skilled in all the details of his profession; a thorough seaman, strikingly bold in the handling of his ship, quick in resources, and calm in the moment of danger. In his discipline he was strict, but not severe or prone to resort to punishment. His ship, and every ship in his squadron, was always in a condition of complete efficiency in all the essentials of service, but he was not inclined to the exaggerated particularity in matters of no practical value that characterizes the "martinet."

In the domestic relations of life he was as exemplary as in the performance of his public duty. His disposition was kind and generous, and his means enabled him to indulge in a wide but unostentatious benevolence.

He was married, in 1828, to a daughter of the celebrated Dr. Physick, of Philadelphia; his children by this union—two sons—survive him.

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## ROBERT T. CONRAD.

ROBERT T. CONRAD, the author of the highly successful tragedy of "Aylmere," was born in Philadelphia, about the year 1810. After completing his preliminary education, he studied law with his uncle, Thomas Kittera, Esq.; but, in place of the practice of the profession, devoted himself to an editorial career, by the publication of the "Daily Commercial Intelligencer," a periodical he subsequently merged in the "Philadelphia Gazette."

In consequence of ill health, he was forced to abandon the toil of daily editorship. He returned to the practice of the law, and was immediately appointed Recorder. After holding this office for two weeks, he became a Judge of the Court of Criminal Sessions; and, on the abolition of that tribunal, was appointed to the bench of the General Sessions, established in its place.

When the city and county of Philadelphia became consolidated, he was the first Mayor under the Act, and was elected to that office by the Native American party.

Mr. Conrad wrote his first tragedy before his twenty-first year. It was entitled "Conradin," and performed with success.

Aylmere was written some years after. It is the property of Mr. Edwin Forrest, and has proved one of the most successful plays. The hero, Jack Cade, assumes the name of Aylmere during his concealment in Italy, to escape the consequences of a daring act of resistance to tyranny in his youth. He returns to England, and heads the insurrection which bears his name in history. The democratic hero is presented with energy, and the entire production abounds in spirited scenes and animated language. The tragedy was published by the author, in 1852, in a volume entitled "Aylmere, or the Bondman of Kent; and other Poems."

He died June 27th, 1858, aged forty-eight years.

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## THOMAS COOMBE.

THOMAS COOMBE, who first appears in American literature as a translator of his teacher, Beveridge's Latin poems, was a native of Philadelphia; and, after concluding his course at the college, studied theology, and visiting England to take orders, was, on his return, appointed an assistant minister of Christ Church. He sided with the Liberal party at the outbreak of the Revolution; but, disapproving of the separation from England, joined after that event the Tory party. He was, in 1777, banished, with others, by the Legislature, to Staunton, Virginia, but was allowed, on the score of sickness, to remain. He soon after went to England. The Earl of Carlisle made him his chaplain, and he finally became a Prebendary of Canterbury, and one of the royal chaplains.

## THOMAS P. COPE.

BY JOSEPH R. CHANDLER.

MR. COPE was a native of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania: a member of a highly respectable "Quaker" family. We love that name; we prefer the term "Quaker" to that of "Friend," because, though it was given in derision, it has become a term of honorable distinction, by the merits of those who have illustrated the virtues of the sect on which it was bestowed. A bad name may destroy an individual who is denied time and opportunity to redeem himself from the opprobrium. But classes and sects that are permitted to survive the excitement which confers an unkind and injurious appellation, may acquire to themselves a credit that shall cause that which was conferred as an epithet of contempt, to become a title of distinguishing honor. So much more potent is virtue than a name; so true are mankind to virtue and practical goodness, when their judgment is allowed time to supersede their passions.

Mr. Cope traced his descent on both sides, for many generations, from the "Friends." His ancestor, Oliver Cope, was one of the first purchasers from William Penn. On the maternal side, Mr. Cope has descended from the Pym, who claim as an ancestor the celebrated parliamentarian, John Pym, whose name is connected with that of Strafford; and Mr. Cope had, as his middle name, that of his maternal ancestor.

The education of Mr. Cope was good; it included a general round of English studies, the German language, and that amount of Latin which was, sixty years since, deemed necessary as a foundation of a good education; and though perhaps he had not occasion to make a direct use of his classical studies, there can be no doubt that they greatly assisted in disciplining his mind for the pursuits of life in which he was engaged, and for those rational enjoyments consequent upon his success and his social position.

When Mr. Cope had completed that education which was deemed necessary to a mercantile life, and which in his case led to a sound literary taste, since indulged and improved, he was, in 1786, sent





to the city of Philadelphia to commence the acquisition of practical mercantile knowledge, by undertaking the primary labors of the counting-room, and ascended from the junior grade, which only notices events, by a simple record, to that position which plans the movement and directs the conduct of thousands ; and, while it seems to have only a selfish object, does indeed connect the interests and the feelings of countries, and brings about that state of national feelings which demands the services of the diplomatist to confirm and solemnize.

We do not learn that the early career of Mr. Cope was distinguished by any of those bold schemes which sometimes dazzle the eye of the uninitiated by the splendor of their success, and often bring extensive ruin by their almost natural failure. Mr. Cope was *educated* a Quaker, and he felt that all of his education, all that parents and teachers had imparted to his childhood and youth, was intended as a portion of his capital in the business of life—elements of success in his mercantile and his social position ; and hence, we find that *prudence* was one of the leading principles of his business plans, and that quality came to distinguish all of his conduct. He could not, to achieve a considerable advantage to himself, put in jeopardy that which, if lost, would bring distress if not ruin on others. He had no right to abuse the credit which his education, his conduct, and his character had secured. He valued that credit as a means of making the wealth of others auxiliary to his own plans ; but he could not justify to himself any undertaking which, built on the confidence of his contemporaries, should so abuse that faith as to make the chance of his own prosperity the means of injuring his friends. In other words, that which is ordinarily called “prudence” in business men, was in Mr. Cope a fixed principle of honesty, upon which he based his plans of business, and by which he limited his enterprise.

In 1790 Mr. Cope began business, and he built for his own use the store at the corner of Second Street and Jones’s Alley, then known by the euphonious designation of Pewter Platter Alley. Here he transacted a large business, importing his own goods. In this location he continued until 1807, at which time he built his first ship, which he named, for his native county, Lancaster.

Those who look back fifty-five or fifty-six years upon the history

of Philadelphia, will find the record of disease and death occupying a large portion of the annals of the city ; and it seems almost natural, when speaking of one who lived through those times, to inquire what part he bore in the labors and sufferings of the people.

Mr. Cope's activity, his respectable position, and his associations, were of a kind to afford him an opportunity to distinguish himself, either by a selfish regard to his own safety, or by a magnanimous devotion to the comfort and safety of others. He was true to himself, to the instincts of his nature, to all the good circumstances with which his life had been surrounded. He promptly volunteered his services. He tarried in the city in 1793, and caught and suffered from the yellow fever, which was desolating the place.

In 1797, that scourge of man again visited Philadelphia. Mr. Cope resolved to bear a part in the alleviation of those sufferings, which, as one of the "Guardians of the Poor" and a "Manager of the Almshouse," he had such an opportunity for understanding ; and he, with another citizen (Mr. Young, a bookseller), accepted from the mayor of the city (Hilary Baker) the office of almoner, to minister directly to the wants of those who were suffering from destitution, in consequence of the suspension of business. Several thousand dollars were expended by Mr. Cope and his colleague, who carried the food which they purchased to the houses of the sufferers, many of whom were people who, in ordinary times, were able to be liberal themselves, to whom the charity was extended personally, and in a way that the most good should be secured from the expenditure, in the most delicate manner.

It is not the object of this paper, nor the wish of the writer, to present a detailed account of the daily doings of Mr. Cope. He commenced business, not on the scale on which he conducted it a few years before he withdrew from its toils, but with those limits which moderate capital rendered necessary, and which "prudence" (again we mean a proper regard to others as well as to himself) naturally suggested. A devotion becoming a man who had resolved to have a name among merchants, was manifested by Mr. Cope to his business ; and he was one likely to be noticed by his seniors as marked for success in himself, and as an example to others. Yet this noticeable occupancy of time in the affairs of his store and counting-room was not all-absorbing. To be a merchant, with all

the circumstances which are connected with that profession, was of course Mr. Cope's principal object. But it would appear that the generous regard to civic and State interests, which he manifested since his withdrawal from business, must have been apparent in his early manhood, as we find him a member of the city Councils at the close of the past and the beginning of the present century, and an efficient member of the committee for introducing water into the city of Philadelphia, a measure which for a time required all the efforts of its friends to secure its adoption and execution, against the opposition of a majority, and which for a time was the occasion of great unpopularity to its advocates.

Mr. Cope was again, in 1807, called into public life by being elected a member of the State Legislature, at a time when party spirit was active, and when conservative views and votes were deemed necessary for the preservation of those principles upon which the Constitution of the commonwealth was founded, and which that instrument was intended to express and defend.

Subsequently, Mr. Cope was called on to mingle still more in public life. We allude to those early demands upon his time, to show that, with all the business devotion and business habits which distinguished him and marked him for success, he had, and others saw in him, all those qualities which give delight to social life, and those abilities which make the republican citizen a useful servant of the State. And we may add, that the demand upon his services was not limited to the city or the commonwealth. As a man of sound education, as one of high integrity, as a sound politician and an accomplished merchant, he was naturally looked to as a proper person to represent the great interests of Philadelphia in the councils of the nation. There was no doubt of his ability to represent the people, and to promote the true interests of the great commercial metropolis of the Union; and his character and manners were such as to warrant the belief that his election would have been less a party triumph than the result of the concurrent vote of most of the people of his district.

To a young man, sensible of claims upon public confidence, and not insensible to the suggestions of ambition, such a concurrence of circumstances would seem to present a most desirable avenue to office and fame. In those days the honors of Congress had not

been so extensively enjoyed, and the privileges of Congress had not been so frequently abused. At that time, a representative of fifty thousand freemen in the legislature of the nation had a high claim upon public regard, and the office might well be coveted. At that time, and at any time since, the constituency of the Congressional representative of Philadelphia must be regarded as one of which any man may be proud. Undoubtedly Mr. Cope felt the appeal to his ambition which this offer made; but he had other duties, and among them was that of justifying the confidence which his previous career as a merchant had secured to himself, and to manifest that prudence upon which his success was to depend, by declining all honors which must withdraw him from an immediate supervision of an extensive mercantile establishment, upon which so much more than his own direct interests depended.

Mr. Cope, as we have said, is a member of the Society of Friends. Perhaps the principles of that sect may have, in some measure, restrained him from accepting the honorable post which was about to be formally offered to him. Many of the votes of Congress involve the encouragement of war; we do not know whether that consideration influenced him, and influences others of his religious denomination, in declining to sit in Congress; it is certain that we seldom see Quakers in the halls of the national legislature, where their services would often be very valuable. The regret, however, to be felt for the absence of Mr. Cope on such accounts must have been augmented, at that particular juncture, by a knowledge of his intimacy with the laws of trade and their practical operation, and his straightforward adherence to what he believed to be right. Fortunately, Philadelphia possessed other sons to represent her in Congress, and while some were doing honor to their constituents in *that* place, Mr. Cope was fully occupied in the execution of enlarged plans of commerce, which were to be productive of public as well as of private benefit.

To Mr. Cope was Philadelphia indebted for the establishment, in 1821, of the first regular line of packet-ships between that city and Liverpool (England), and the first ship employed in the line was, we believe, the *Lancaster*, of 290 tons, commanded by Captain Dixey. To this was added the *Tuscarora*, of 379 tons, commanded by Captain James Serrill. The line is still kept up, and has in it



the Tuscarora, a new ship, of 1231 tons. The line was sustained through all those adverse circumstances, which, for a time, threatened the destruction of the foreign commerce of Philadelphia. It followed close upon that established in New York, and is yet maintained, with augmented tonnage, by Messrs. Cope Brothers.

About 1810, Mr. Cope removed his place of business to Walnut Street wharf, where his sons now have their counting-house, and where their packet-ships now lie, when in port. This place had been remarkable as the scene of misfortune to nearly all its previous occupants, and so marked had the results been, so striking and so interrupted, that a dread had been excited in the minds of those the least tinctured with superstition. It was what was called an "unlucky place," and several of Mr. Cope's friends mentioned to him with some earnestness its bad character.

"Then," said he, "I will try to earn for it a better name." And though he was a wealthy man before he removed thither, yet that place is identified with his subsequent prosperity.

We have already mentioned that "prudence" was a leading principle in Mr. Cope's plans of business. He never allowed himself to be drawn into hazardous enterprises which would deprive him of that quiet so essential to the proper enjoyment of what one has acquired, and to the proper calculations and plans for a generous increase of possessions. Such a course would have been contrary to his established mercantile principles. But there are times when a merchant may incur risks without an impeachment of his prudence; and the occasion for such a risk occurred once, at least, in Mr. Cope's experience. His favorite ship, the Lancaster, was on her return voyage from Canton with a cargo of great value, at the breaking out of the war of 1812. He made repeated applications for insurance, but the alarm was general and great, and the offices refused to take a risk upon the ship and cargo for less than 75 per cent. This was an enormous deduction; but the ocean swarmed with British cruisers, and the premium of insurance, considering the course of the Lancaster, could scarcely be regarded as unreasonable. Mr. Cope understood his own affairs perfectly, and, satisfying himself that he could sustain the loss of the whole, and consequently that he could be his own insurer, he calmly awaited



the result, though each day's papers conveyed intelligence of important inroads upon the mercantile marine of our country by British ships of war. The resolution, however, had been taken, after careful deliberation, and the only course was a "patient waiting." And when darkness seemed to hang thickest upon the prospects of the merchants, the Lancaster arrived at Philadelphia, one evening, with her immensely valuable cargo, and the captain received from the pilot, in the Delaware, the first intimation of hostilities between this country and Great Britain; and he remarked, that he should have hailed a British cruiser for the news, had one come within "speaking" distance. The result of this was an immense profit upon the cargo.

In referring to Mr. Cope's mercantile career, we cannot omit to notice that he was the contemporary and often the rival of Stephen Girard. And we must add, that he was on terms of intimacy and friendship with that remarkable man. It is another proof of Mr. Girard's sagacity, that he selected Mr. Cope to be one of the executors of his will, and one of the trustees of the bank. It happened that after discharging with fidelity the duties which his friend and fellow-merchant had thus devolved upon him, Mr. Cope, as a member of the Select Council of the city of Philadelphia, came to be, for a time, the President of the Board of Commissioners of the Girard Estate; and he was subsequently elected, by the Select Council, a Director of the Girard College for Orphans, an honor which, to the regret of his colleagues, he immediately declined.

Reference has already been made to the public spirit of Mr. Cope, and to his promptness and fidelity in every position to which he had been called by the vote of the people, and his exertions and contributions when his experience and his wealth were required to insure the commencement or completion of works of public interest. And we have already referred to his exertions to secure the introduction of wholesome water into the city of Philadelphia. To Mr. Cope, in an eminent degree, may be acceded the praise of bringing to a completion the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal; and the citizens of Philadelphia are not likely soon to forget the promptness and the efficiency of his movements to secure the construction of the Pennsylvania Railroad. He presided at the town meeting called in support of that measure, so important to Philadelphia, and gave

it the aid of his continued labors, and the most liberal subscription of any individual contributor.

It was the good fortune of the writer of this hasty notice to be a colleague of Mr. Cope in the Convention which remodelled the Constitution of Pennsylvania, and testimony is cheerfully borne to the fidelity with which he guarded the interests and represented the principles of his immediate constituents by the wholesome conservatism of all his views, his remarks, and his votes; and while he exhibited a thorough understanding of the nature and wants of our popular government, he manifested an earnest desire that the organic law of his native commonwealth should be placed upon a basis which should not be shaken by every breeze of popular favor, or every tempest of popular dislike.

Though few of the institutions of Philadelphia are without the valuable aid, in some form, of Mr. Cope, yet his mercantile friends are permitted to enjoy the largest portion of his important services. He was the President of the "Board of Trade," where his person was always hailed with pleasure, and his opinions received with marked deference. But another institution, which is the pride of Philadelphia merchants, has been particularly favored by Mr. Cope. We allude to the Mercantile Library Company, of which he was long the President, and from whose meetings he was very rarely absent. His own feelings seemed to derive new freshness from his association with the younger members of that profession which he honored; and his pride, perhaps, was gratified by the evidence that his life was regarded as an example to those who, when he shall have ceased to be of their number, will be able to sustain the character of Philadelphia merchants.

In personal appearance, Mr. Cope was not without advantage. Of established health, the result of a sound constitution, assisted by temperate habits and constant exercise, his upright bearing, and firm, elastic step, seem as if they had been acquired in a military school, rather than under the guidance of a mother and school-master of the Society of Friends. An anecdote may illustrate our meaning.

Some years since, Mr. Cope was travelling in the Western States with the late General Cadwalader, who was "every inch a general." On arriving at a hotel, the names of the travellers were of course

registered. Having, perhaps, some business with, or, more probably, willing to be hospitable to General Cadwalader, a resident of the place where the travellers were spending the night, after examining the record of the names, stepped to the porch, and observing a gentleman walking up and down, with a quick, firm step, and wearing a surtout with an upright military collar, he thought he could not be deceived as it regarded the military title of the visitor, whom he immediately saluted as "General," and proceeded to introduce himself and his business. And it was not easy to satisfy him that he had mistaken a member of the "Society of Friends," in the full dress of that sect, for a "Major General."

No religious association, no weight of public duties, no cares and calculations of a mercantile life, not even the weight of more than eighty years, have deprived Mr. Cope of a buoyancy of spirits that made his company the delight of social gatherings. No man, within the limits of gentlemanly propriety, could add more to the zest of lively, pleasant conversation. Full of experience, full of anecdote, full of desire to promote kindly feelings, and to share in their exercise, his presence was always desirable, where pleasant wit and chastened humor are allowed their appropriate exercise. His presence brought no unpleasant restraints. It is a matter of course that the character, conduct, and position of Mr. Cope did attract to him the high regard of the aged and the venerable of his acquaintance; but it is an additional proof of the excellence of his temper, and the purity of his principles and of his taste, that the young loved his presence, and courted his approval. We have referred to Mr. Cope as a merchant, enterprising, liberal, successful;—as a philanthropist, self-denying and devoted;—as a man, upright, respected, beloved.

Thomas P. Cope died, November 22d, 1854, in Philadelphia, mindful of the institutions whose objects he approved, and leaving to his children the immense wealth which industry and integrity had acquired, and judicious economy had preserved; leaving them the nobler inheritance of a character of unspotted purity, and a name that is synonymous with mercantile sagacity and mercantile honor.

## JAMES COX.

JAMES COX died in Philadelphia in March, 1834, at the advanced age of eighty-three. His great passion was book collecting, and during a long life he was so thoroughly imbued with the bibliomania that he sacrificed his income to the attainment of that object, so long as he was able to exert himself in his profession. He came to this country from England when a young man. Passing along Almond Street, he saw a lady at her front door, whom he recognized as having emigrated from his own country, and a friendship was formed between them. Mr. Cox became her heir, and having now a comfortable house over his head, and some small income besides that derived from the exercise of his talents, he devoted himself to forming a library and to literary pursuits, passing only a part of each day in teaching, drawing, and painting.

He was long the fashionable drawing-master in the families of our wealthiest citizens, and in boarding-schools, &c. Robert Morris and General Washington were his patrons. Being almost the only professor of his art in the city, Mr. Cox found money flowing in upon him in a perennial stream, and what was so easily made was as readily spent. The book-stores, book-stalls, and auctions were visited daily in search of varieties of books, his bills at one book-store alone amounting to a thousand dollars per annum for many successive years, whilst his importations from Europe were also considerable. Books on the fine arts, at a time when such things were unknown here, were to be seen only in his collection; hence his rooms were a resort for artists, and from this storehouse emanated patterns for various kinds of house decorations, theatrical ornaments, scenery, &c. Music, too, he cultivated successfully, and was intimate with the most prominent professors of the art. His purse was not unfrequently opened to poor actors and others.

He lived a retired life. His only companions were a dog and a macaw, the latter remarkable for its splendid plumage, its loquacity, and mischievous disposition.

Much persuasion was necessary in order to obtain a view of his



books, which were stored away in a second story room, in double and treble rows, and covered with cobwebs and dust, while the floor was strewn with portfolios of drawings, scraps of music, broken instruments, hour-glasses, plaster casts, &c., with not a few evidences of the inroads of vermin. At the urgent solicitation of friends, and after frequent conversations with literary characters, his judgment became convinced of the propriety of depositing his books in an institution where they would be kept together. The Philadelphia Library agreed to give him an annuity of four hundred dollars per annum for his support in declining life, and Mr. Cox's large and valuable collection of books was transferred to that institution. The number of volumes in his library exceeded five thousand. In each of the books thus transferred is inscribed the name of James Cox.

The passion for collecting remained until the last. With his increased income from the Philadelphia Library, Mr. Cox continued an occasional attendant at book sales, laying the foundation for another library. Had he lived long enough, his old hive would probably have been again filled.

The Directors of the Library granted Mr. Cox the free use of the books of the institution. He had many anecdotes to tell of his books: the difficulties he had encountered in procuring this, and the envy he had excited at having the good fortune to possess that curious specimen of typography or engraving; and his conversation generally ended with the history of an attempt of some old citizen to purchase or bribe from him one of his literary treasures.

The remains of Mr. Cox were deposited in St. Paul's churchyard, on the 30th March, 1834, and his funeral was honored by the attendance of a large number of the most respectable and intelligent citizens.







## TENCH COXE.

THE subject of the following notice was born in Philadelphia, on May 22d, 1755. He was the son of William Coxe, of Philadelphia, and Mary Francis, his wife, daughter of Tench Francis, Attorney-General of the Province of Pennsylvania.

The family of Tench Coxe was originally from Somersetshire in England. His first ancestor connected with America was Dr. Daniel Coxe, of London, who, though never in this country, took an active part in American affairs as early as 1678, and was largely interested in many of the colonies. He was the proprietor of the Government of West New Jersey, and also of the Province of Carolana, which comprised the territory lying between the 31st and 36th parallels of north latitude. For the purpose of founding a settlement upon the Mississippi within the limits of the latter, he, in 1698, sent out an expedition of two armed vessels and several hundred colonists. These ships were the first which entered the Mississippi from the sea.\* The colonists were, however, through the machinations of the French, diverted from their purpose, and eventually settled in South Carolina. Dr. Coxe conveyed his interests in this country to his son, Colonel Daniel Coxe, the grandfather of Tench Coxe, who in consequence came to this country in 1702, and took up his residence at first at Burlington, and afterwards at Trenton, in New Jersey. Colonel Coxe occupied many important public positions in that Province, and was the author of a remarkable work entitled "A Description of the Province of Carolana," just alluded to. This work contains a detailed plan for the union of the American Colonies, which is believed to be the earliest extant.

Tench Coxe received his education at the College of Philadelphia, now the University of Pennsylvania. Among his classmates was his kinsman, the late Chief Justice Tilghman, between whom and himself there existed a youthful friendship, which continued during life. The natural inclination of Mr. Coxe's mind at this

\* *Vide* Bancroft, vol. iv, p. 202.

youthful period, perhaps increased by the influence of his friend, was towards embracing the profession of the law. In consequence, however, of the decidedly expressed wishes of his father, then the head of the house of Coxe & Furman, he quitted college to enter their counting-house, and at the period of attaining his majority, in May, 1776, became a partner of the house, which then assumed the name of Coxe, Furman & Coxe.

The condition of the country was at that time fast becoming critical, and none felt the embarrassments of civil war more than those engaged in mercantile pursuits. In a few months the Declaration of Independence was made, and the prospects of peace were postponed to a still more distant future. Mr. Coxe's commercial responsibilities were at this period greatly increased by the circumstance of his father, his senior partner, being prevented by a paralytic affection from taking any part in the management of business. This circumstance, together with the absence of his second partner, threw upon Mr. Coxe, while still a mere youth, the sole management of the interests and affairs of an important commercial house. The responsible and representative character of his position compelled him to maintain, in the early part of the revolutionary struggle, a course of strictly neutral conduct towards both of the contending parties. During the occupation of Philadelphia, no one of his commercial brethren pursued this line of conduct with more consistency. Its adoption in his case was not a matter of choice, but of imperious obligation. The duty of preserving sacred interests of others confided to his youthful direction, could not otherwise have been faithfully fulfilled. Though taking no part in the contest, he always then and afterwards enjoyed the respect and esteem of the leading supporters of the cause of Independence. General Washington's concurrence in this favorable opinion was attested in his first presidency by the appointment of Mr. Coxe to more than one important post under the national government.

Mr. Coxe's first entry into public life was upon the occasion of his being elected by the Legislature of Pennsylvania a Commissioner to the Annapolis Federal Convention. The State of Virginia had proposed, in the beginning of the year 1786, that commissioners from the several States should meet to discuss the defects

of the Federal Constitution, and frame a uniform system of commercial intercourse and regulations, which should be binding upon the whole confederacy when ratified by all the States. This convention met at Annapolis on September 14th, 1786. Among its members were Madison, Hamilton, Edmund Randolph, and John Dickinson. Mr. Dickinson was elected President of the Convention. In consequence of the deficiency of the representation of the States, there being but five represented, the Commissioners did not deem it advisable to proceed upon the business of their mission. They however took a step, which led to most important results, and recommended that a Convention should be held on the second Monday of May, 1787, to take into consideration the situation of the United States, and devise such measures as should appear to them necessary to render the Constitution of the Federal Government adequate to the exigencies of the Union. This recommendation was acted upon by Congress, and resulted in the assembling, on that day, of the Convention which framed the Constitution of the United States.

In 1788, Mr. Coxe was elected by the Legislature of Pennsylvania to represent that State in the Continental Congress, until the period at which the Constitution of the United States should go into operation. His colleagues were John Armstrong and James R. Read.

In September, 1789, the act organizing the Treasury Department was passed ; and, in May following, Mr. Coxe received the appointment of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. The duties of the office were at such a time peculiarly important. The administrative departments of the Government were not yet completely developed in their organization, and the whole subject of the financial policy and credit of the country were under discussion. Mr. Coxe applied himself with great zeal to assist Mr. Hamilton in the treatment of these important questions. The merit of his services was recognized by General Washington and the Secretary of the Treasury ; and in May, 1792, he was appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, to the position of Commissioner of the Revenue. Mr. Coxe held this post during the rest of the administration of General Washington.

During the period of the development of the two great political



parties of Federalists, and Republicans or Democrats, Mr. Coxe from the first sympathized with the latter, and warmly advocated the election of Mr. Jefferson to the presidency in opposition to the claims of Mr. Adams.

In 1803, Mr. Coxe was appointed by Mr. Jefferson to the position of Purveyor of the Public Supplies of the United States, which he continued to hold until the year 1812, when the office was abolished.

The writings of Tench Coxe are voluminous and varied. No writer of his time was more constantly occupied in the discussion of public subjects, and particularly those of a politico-economical character, and none exercised a greater influence upon the opinions of the day in such matters. The custom of discussing public questions by means of pamphlet publications, so common in England, obtained in the United States, at that day, to a much greater extent than at the present. Mr. Coxe's works were generally published at intervals in this pamphlet form. They extend through a period of many years, for his pen, up to the time of his death, was rarely idle. In the limits of this notice, it is impossible to do more than hint at their variety and influence. There has been no complete attempt to collect these publications, a circumstance which adds to the difficulty of the undertaking. The only works of Mr. Coxe which were collected and republished in a regular book form, or which appeared so originally, are: "A Brief Examination of Lord Sheffield's Observations on the Commerce of the United States; with two Supplementary Notes upon American Manufactures" (Philadelphia and London, 1792); "A View of the United States of America" (Philadelphia, 1794, and London, 1795), a work in which the politico-economical interests of this country are elaborately discussed; and "A Statement of the Arts and Manufactures of the United States, for the year 1810" (4to, Philadelphia, 1814), published under the auspices of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Though treating, to a considerable extent, of subjects of a purely political character, by far the greater part of Mr. Coxe's writings are upon questions connected with political economy. It was for such subjects that the natural bent of his mind and a long-continued study peculiarly fitted him. At the period of the formation of a new and independent state, there was an immediate necessity of the philosophical discussion of the principles of political economy,

and their application to the commercial and manufacturing interests of the nation. With few exceptions the older and leading spirits of that generation had their first attention engrossed in the more vital questions of a purely political nature. The health and life of the new body politic, rather than its mere material or economical interests, were the objects of their first care. Mr. Coxe thus found an ample field open for the exertion of his abilities as a political economist.

This class of subjects was, however, beset with difficulties from the outset. The basis for such inquiries was wanting. There had been few, if any, attempts to collect any body of statistics, much less digest them in a scientific form. Mr. Coxe remarks, in 1793, that "the state of information connected with commercial legislation was very unsatisfactory in 1787. We had very few State documents, and still less of national. To legislate then on the subject was a more difficult and uncertain business than it now is." The extent of this deficiency and the errors which it produced may be seen from the following extract, written in 1787: "The commerce of America, including our exports, imports, shipping, manufactures, and fisheries, may be properly considered as one interest. So uninformed and mistaken have many of us been, that it has been stated as the great object, and I fear it is yet believed to be the great interest of New England. But, from the best calculations that I have been able to make, I cannot raise the proportion of property, or the number of men employed in manufactures, fisheries, navigation, and trade, to one-eighth of the property and people occupied by agriculture even in that commercial quarter of the Union." Mr. Coxe diligently addressed himself to the task of supplying a foundation for economical inquiries. In so doing, he was enabled not merely to provide statistics for his own investigations, but also to render important assistance to the leading statesmen of his day.

The navigation system of the United States was one of the earliest questions discussed by economists. Mr. Coxe expressed his views upon this subject in a pamphlet published in 1787. He urged that the coasting trade of the Union should be confined exclusively to American bottoms, that the fisheries and whaling trade should receive all the protection and encouragement of the Government

that was not inconsistent with other essential interests, and that the importation of foreign goods should be restricted to the vessels of the United States and those of the country producing them.\*

The advocacy of these views did not proceed from any tendency to disregard the value of principles of free trade. The theoretical doctrines of free trade were, in the last generation, practical impossibilities,—a subject to which Mr. Coxe adverts in writing, in 1809, when he remarks that, “if foreign governments would agree to the universal freedom of trade, this country would be required, by prudence and justice to the mass of its citizens, to make the experiment of such a state of things. Our government might say to the merchants, seamen, and ship-builders, the field of competition lies open before you. But the state of things is very different. Foreign nations are now zealous and intelligent rivals, and will become unfeeling monopolizers if they can lull, deceive, or coerce their improvident neighbors.”†

It is somewhat difficult at this day to appreciate the actual state of the commercial world, and particularly the condition of the manufacturing interests in the latter part of the last century. It had been the policy of Great Britain to make her colonies utterly dependent upon her for all articles of manufactures. They were, as part of this policy, excluded from the introduction of all machinery and mechanical improvements. This policy had been successful with regard not only to articles of utility, but also those of ornament and fashion. Lord Chatham, it is asserted, said that he would not permit the Americans to make “a hobnail;” and it was by this destitution of manufactures that the sufferings of Americans, during the Revolutionary war, were greatly aggravated. After the rupture of the political bonds between the two countries, it was the received opinion in England that, although the United States had attained a political independence, yet, in matters of commerce, and particularly in manufactures, they would still remain subservient to England. Lord Sheffield was the most noted exponent of

\* *Vide* An Inquiry into the Principles upon which a Commercial System for the United States should be Founded; to which are added some Political Observations connected with the subject, by Tench Coxe. Read before the Society for Political Inquiries, convened at the house of Benjamin Franklin, Esq., 11th May, 1787.

† *Vide* a Memoir on the subject of a Navigation Act. Philadelphia, 1809.

these views. He considered that British manufactures would always undersell any that the Americans might produce; that the interest, as well as the necessities of the country, required that the great mass of labor should be devoted to agriculture, and would so prevent any system of American manufactures from being built up; and that, in this respect, we would still remain colonial.

The encouragement of American manufactures was a subject to which Tench Coxe devoted himself throughout his whole life. As early as 1775, when but twenty years of age, he became a member of the "United Company of Philadelphia for Promoting American Manufactures." In 1787, the Pennsylvania Society for the Encouragement of Arts and Domestic Manufactures was instituted, and Mr. Coxe was one of the most active of its founders. He had already attained the position of an authority upon the subject, and was appointed, at the instance of Dr. Rush, the President of the meeting of organization, to deliver the inaugural address of the Society. He continued always a most active member, and subsequently became President of the Society.

Previous to 1790, American manufactures of all kinds were in a weak and deficient state, and continued unable to cope with those imported from abroad. In that year, however, the efforts of the friends of manufactures began to produce apparent and happy results. This success soon became so decided that the republication in London, in the year 1792, of Mr. Coxe's series of papers, in answer to Lord Sheffield's views, was received as a sort of declaration of the independence of the United States in manufactures. An English Review, in an article upon the work,\* confesses itself, for the first time informed, that the "Americans are making rapid strides in all the most useful manufactures, not only for their own consumption, but also for exportation, to a degree that was once deemed incompatible with their situation, as having such immense lands to settle."

The encouragement of manufactures continued to be constantly discussed throughout the writings of Mr. Coxe; and is, in fact, the subject to which, in its various branches, he directed the greatest attention.

\* *Vide Monthly Review*, 1792, page 220.



In 1812, Congress instructed the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be prepared a statement of the manufactures of the country. Mr. Gallatin applied to Mr. Coxe, as the first authority among economists, to execute the undertaking. The result was the work mentioned in a previous part of this notice. In its first and second parts, it contains an account of the history of American manufactures down to that period, and an elaborate discussion of the proper means of their future development.

Mr. Coxe's views upon the encouragement of manufactures were not occasioned by any preference of them over other equally or more important interests. His opinion was that, "in the United States, there is no reason to entertain a doubt of the general proposition, that labor and skill, applied to land, will produce the greatest amount of riches;" and that "our true interests should restrain us from burdening or impeding agriculture in any way;" while, however, every encouragement should be given to manufactures not inconsistent with a due regard to agriculture. His theory was not, however, merely that these two interests should be prevented from conflicting with each other, but that they should be united in the bonds of a common encouragement and support; and that agriculture, as the most important interest, should serve as the foundation upon which the system of manufactures should be built. The only means of developing such a theory in practice was by the growth of "a redundant staple" in this country. It was upon such ideas that the policy of England, with regard to woollen manufactures and the production of wool, had been founded. Such a staple could only be found in America in cotton.

As early as 1786, Mr. Coxe became convinced that cotton, which he had observed occasionally grown in gardens in Maryland, might be extensively cultivated in this country. Upon examination, he came to the conclusion that all the region south of latitude thirty-nine was capable of producing cotton extensively. Mr. Coxe constantly employed his pen, and in every other way exerted himself to attract the attention of the community, and particularly that of the planters of the five original Southern States, to the value of the cotton cultivation. The agitation of the question was persistently carried on by the friends of manufactures, until cotton, from a petty object in little fields and gardens, became converted



into an article of extensive cultivation among planters and farmers. Mr. Madison alludes to Mr. Coxe's efforts upon the subject, in writing to him, under the date of November 14th, 1807, in these words: "Though tardy, I am not the less sincere in the acknowledgments of your two favors, the one inclosing your printed remarks on the subject of cotton wool. Your very early and continued attention to this important interest is entitled to the thankfulness of your countrymen."

In order to reap the full advantage of cotton as a cheap clothing material, there yet existed a necessity for the introduction of labor-saving machinery. The preparation of cotton for the manufacturer by the separation of the seeds from the wool, was a slow and expensive operation performed by hand, and the Arkwright machinery for spinning cotton-yarn was a secret known only in England, and which, in pursuance of the English manufacturing policy, was strictly guarded by stringent laws and police regulations. The first of these necessities was supplied by the invention of the wonderful cotton gin of Whitney, in the year 1793. The introduction of the Arkwright machinery into this country was an object of early attention on the part of Mr. Coxe. In 1787, he made a contract with an English emigrant in Philadelphia to return to his native country, and there secure brass models of the Arkwright machinery. It was intended that these models should be sent over to France, and then re-shipped to this country, and Mr. Jefferson, then American Minister at Paris, was through Mr. Madison interested in the affair. In the following year the models had been completed, and were on the point of being forwarded to the continent, when the authorities became informed of the matter, and arrested the agent, who was put under bonds not to leave England within three years. Though unsuccessful in this instance, the result of these and similar efforts was to direct the attention of persons employed in manufactures in England to the subject, and in 1789 we find that the Arkwright machinery was introduced into this country by Samuel Slater. Mr. Slater was first induced to emigrate to America by reading an advertisement of the Pennsylvania Society, offering a reward for the introduction of the cotton machinery, which was signed by Tench Coxe, as one of its officers.

The limits of this notice forbid any attempt to extend this im-

perfect sketch of Mr. Coxe's services and opinions; it has merely been the object of what has been written to do some justice to the memory of a citizen, who was never forgetful of the duty of exerting his peculiar talents for the good of his country.

Mr. Coxe died July 17th, 1824, at the age of sixty-nine years.

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## ELLIOT CRESSON.

ELLIOT CRESSON, an American philanthropist, was born in Philadelphia, March 2, 1796. He became a successful merchant in his native city, and there resided during his life. By birthright he was a member of the Society of Friends, universally distinguished for kind feelings and deeds of benevolence, and from them, it is natural to conclude, he received his early impressions on all kindred subjects. Hence his ardent love for the aborigines of America, and for the African race. He even proposed at one time to become a missionary, at his own cost, among the Seminole Indians; and was also one of the pioneers in African colonization. He was especially instrumental in purchasing from the native princes the colony of liberated slaves. Mr. Cresson spent much time in this good work, and freely contributed his pecuniary means. In the winter of 1838 and 1839, he made a tour of the New England States, as agent of the National Colonization Society. The ensuing winter he passed at the South, where he was engaged in a similar mission. In both sections, the claims of the cause were eloquently presented and enforced, and met with considerable encouragement. He absolutely refused all remuneration for these services. In December, 1840, he sailed for England, where he spent the following two years. The years 1850, 1851, and 1852 were passed in London, for the benefit of his health and to obtain auxiliaries in the cause of African improvement. He contributed largely during his lifetime to objects of charity, and in his will he made a most generous contribution of his estates, not to a single object, but to a large number, embrac-





ing a wide range, and greatly diversified in character. Among other bequests, he gave to the American Sunday School Union, \$50,000; to the Philadelphia School of Design for Women, \$10,000; to the Pennsylvania Historical Society, \$10,000; for a monument to William Penn, \$10,000; for Episcopal missions, schools, and college, at Port Cresson, in Liberia, Africa, named after him, \$10,000; to the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, \$5000; to the city of Philadelphia for planting trees, \$5000; to the University of Pennsylvania, to endow a Professorship in the fine arts, \$5000; for founding a Miners' School in Pennsylvania, \$5000; to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Society, \$5000; to the Protestant Episcopal Seminary, Alexandria, Virginia, \$5000; and to the Athenæum, Philadelphia; Widows' Asylum, Philadelphia; the Deaf and Dumb Asylum; House of Refuge; Colored Refuge; Refuge for Decayed Merchants; and Pennsylvania Colonization Society, \$1000 each. He bequeathed \$41,000 to relatives and friends, and a landed estate, estimated at over \$30,000, in trust for a foundation and support of a Home for aged, infirm, or invalid gentlemen and merchants, where they may enjoy the comforts of an asylum appropriate to their character and previous condition. It will be seen from the above that Mr. Cresson was not a man of one idea only. In the cause of colonization he had no equal, and his benevolent views embraced a sphere of a diversified and extended character seldom filled by the same individual.

He died at Philadelphia, February 20, 1854, at the age of fifty-eight years.

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## BENJAMIN CROSS.

BENJAMIN CROSS, the subject of this notice, was born in Philadelphia on the 15th of September, 1786, of Scotch descent. He was educated at the University of Pennsylvania. It was the wish of his parents that he should pursue the study of medicine, but they were not able to carry it out, as all his predilections from youth were musical. In the early years of his life, whilst yet engaged in educational pursuits, he embraced every opportunity that afforded to



prosecute with diligence his musical studies. His seniors and instructors in the science were Messrs. Rayner Taylor and Benjamin Carr, both English musicians of celebrity and skill. Mr. Cross's professional career may be dated from the year 1810. It was in June of that year he made his first appearance, the occasion being a Grand Oratorio at St. Augustine's Church, given under the direction of Mr. Carr. We may here take the liberty of saying, that the programme was of a character that we little dream of for days so long gone by. He was busily engaged with nearly all the musical performances of that day. It was, however, in connection with the Musical Fund Society that his principal efforts in behalf of music were made. Its objects are: "The relief of decayed musicians, and the cultivation of skill and diffusion of taste in music;" which society originated in the following manner:—

Previous to the institution of the Musical Fund Society, there were several societies formed for the performance of concerted music, solos, &c. The oldest was the Harmonic Society, which existed some time previous to the commencement of the present century, and continued to the year 1802 or 1803. Various other societies for the same purpose have flourished and died, among which were the Apallonian, the Euterpean, the St. Cecilia, the Sacred Music, the Handel, and the Anacreontic, out of which grew the present Philharmonic. In the year 1816, Mr. C. Hupfeld formed a society for the practice of instrumental music; until he and several of his professional brethren finding it difficult to keep a sufficient band together for the object in view, consulted together, and the result was a determination to form a society, not only to prosecute the study of concerted pieces, &c., but to endeavor to create a fund for the relief of decayed musicians and their families; so that it may be said that out of this private society originated the Musical Fund Society of Philadelphia.

The subject of our notice was one of its founders and principal professional supporters. With his confrères, Messrs. Carr, Schetky, Loud, and Hupfeld, he helped to sustain its public performances; and we doubt not that there are many who still recollect with what distinguished success he sang the bass parts in the Oratorios, such as the "Messiah and Te Deum" of Handel, the "Creation and Seasons" of Haydn, and the "Song of the Bell" of Romberg, &c.

His fine voice and method peculiarly adapted him to the task. As a professor of the piano and singing, he was eminently successful, his manner of imparting instruction being such as to develop the talent and enlist the ambition of the pupil. He had considerable experience as an organist, having directed the music in various churches for more than forty years. He has left many pleasing compositions, among which is a "Mariner's Glee," that received from the Philharmonic Society the award of a silver medal.

We wish that, in closing this brief sketch, we were better able to speak of the private character of Benjamin Cross. The members of his profession are indebted to him for always laboring to promote the advancement of its best interests and upholding its dignity. He was one who loved the divine art for itself, and never forgot that an artist should always be a gentleman. In the domestic circle he was endeared to all by his urbanity of manner and kindness of disposition. His death, which took place on March 1st, 1857, was an event deeply regretted by his friends, and created a void not easily filled among those who best knew his real merits.

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## LOUIS MARTIAL JACQUES CROUSILLAT.

LOUIS MARTIAL JACQUES CROUSILLAT, an eminent merchant of Philadelphia, was born on the 1st of July, in the year 1757, in the town of Salon, in the diocese of the city of Arles, in the south of France. He first arrived in his adopted country, in Philadelphia, in the month of November, in the year 1780. Soon after which, by the intervention of a French officer, attached to Count Rochambeau's army, he procured a situation in the American army at West Point, which constantly occupied him, for eighteen months, in purchasing provisions in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and wherever he could procure them, and conveying them to the army at the above place. In this employment, in which he had given perfect satisfaction, his commissions, at the close of his engagement, amounted to the sum of seven thousand dollars.





as a neighbor and friend, was always ready to do an act of kindness. His good-will to mankind knew no limits; and he possessed the virtue of sincere Christian charity in an eminent degree.

He died July 12th, 1836, in the eightieth year of his age.

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### CORNELIUS C. CUYLER, D.D.

CORNELIUS C. CUYLER was born at Albany, in the State of New York, on the 15th of February, 1783. His ancestors were of the earliest and of the most respectable settlers in the colony of New York, whither they removed from Leyden, in Holland, about the year 1650. They were men of education and of wealth; and, almost from the period of their first settlement in the then province of New York, were largely identified with its social and political history.

Mrs. Grant, in her delightful "Memoirs of an American Lady," gives a most interesting narrative of her residence in the family of one of his immediate ancestors, to whose excellence of mind and character she bears strong testimony.

His mother was Jane Yates, a sister of the late Chief Justice Robert Yates,—a lady of cultivated intellect, and of the most earnest piety. In his after life he was accustomed to speak of her prayers and instruction, and of her forming influence over his youthful mind and character, in most grateful terms.

At the age of fourteen he was fitted for college; but his actual entrance into college was deferred until the year 1802, when he entered Union College, then and still under the presidency of the venerable Dr. Nott.

In the year 1803 he was compelled to leave college, in consequence of the misfortunes in business of his half brothers, who involved, in their failure, the resources of the family.

At this time he was about twenty years of age, and the manly proportions of his matured frame were fully developed. His height was six feet an inch and a half; and his athletic vigor and unsurpassed skill in manly exercises were much admired. In company



with a number of others he set out upon a trading and business expedition through the then wilderness of Northern New York, and thence into Canada, where, upon the shores of the Bay de Quinty, he remained for several weeks with the Mohawk Indians, of whom the famous Brant (Thayandanega) was still the chief.

Having accumulated, by his exertions, the means of continuing his education, he re-entered college, and graduated with distinction in the year 1806. Meanwhile, the purposes of his life, which had originally pointed to the profession of the law, were changed. It is unnecessary to speak of the pecuniary losses of the father, and of various domestic trials, except so far as they disappointed the hopes of the son, and were among the instruments of Providence in moderating his earthly attachments, and leading him to serious reflection, which, under the effectual teachings of the Spirit, issued in his public profession of religion. He studied theology under Dr. Basset and Dr. Livingston, and was ordained a minister of the Gospel of Christ, January 2d, 1809. At the same time he was installed pastor of the Reformed Dutch Church of Poughkeepsie, in the State of New York; and, in the same year, was married to Miss Eleanor De Graff, of Schenectady, New York,—a lady, whose piety, intelligence, and worth, crowned his domestic life with rare happiness.

His ministry, in Poughkeepsie, extended from January, 1809, until December, 1833, and was attended with almost unexampled honor and success.

Previous to Dr. Cuyler's connection with the congregation at Poughkeepsie, their condition had been unhappy, and far from prosperous. It was a delightful thought to him, and one which was the subject of repeated remark, that the Holy Spirit attended "the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery." His pastoral labors were at once attended with tokens of his special influences, which were enjoyed in a prolonged revival of religion of two years, increasing the number of communicants, from less than forty, to more than two hundred.

His labors were not more successful than they were abundant,—extending much beyond the particular congregation of which he had been made the overseer, and spreading widely over Dutchess County, of which Poughkeepsie is the shire-town. Four stations

were planted by him in the vicinity, to which he preached, and all of which he gradually nourished into vigorous and self-sustaining churches. More than one thousand were added to the church of Poughkeepsie, during his ministry, by profession of their faith. And to this day, after the lapse of nearly a quarter of a century, his name and memory are cherished there in hundreds of grateful hearts; and the traces of his abundant and faithful labors are still clearly seen. Such was the success that attended his ministry, and so great its acceptance, that his name and influence were widely extended to other Christian denominations, as well as in his own.

In 1814 he received a call to the collegiate charge of the Reformed Dutch Church in the city of New York. So great was their desire to induce his acceptance, that they offered to remove his objection (which was mainly to a collegiate charge), by consenting to set apart a separate church for his ministry; but a revival of religion again commenced in his charge in Poughkeepsie, and he deemed this to be an indication of the Divine will that he should remain, and so this overture was declined,—so were several subsequent calls that were equally attractive, until, in the year 1833, he yielded to the invitation of the Second Presbyterian Church of the city of Philadelphia; sundering, in obedience to the call of duty, a pastoral relation, than which none closer or dearer, or more productive of mutual happiness and benefit, has ever existed.

In 1828, he received, from Union College, the degree of Doctor of Divinity,—a token of respect which was repeated afterward by Rutgers College, at New Brunswick.

In the month of December, 1833, he was installed in his new charge. This ancient church, founded by the pious toils of Whitfield, and sustained in the successive ministries of some of the most eminent men the Presbyterian Church has known in her history, grew and strengthened under his charge. In 1837, a new and costly church edifice was erected by the congregation in Seventh Street, below Arch Street. The period of Dr. Cuyler's entry into the Presbyterian Church was at the commencement of the memorable struggle between what are called the "Old School" and the "New School" parties, in which differences of opinion upon grave questions alike of doctrine and of church order and policy, after fierce and bitter controversy, resulted, at length, in the year 1838,

in a forcible division and disruption of the Church. The sound judgment, large experience, unquestioned orthodoxy, and manly spirit of Dr. Cuyler, at once attracted to him, in this emergency, the confidence of the Church at large; and he possessed and exercised in the Old School party a commanding influence in this emergency. This controversy is yet of too recent date for its true history to be written. One after another the actors in these fierce differences are passing to the grave, and, with them, perish the passions and excitements which were for the time so sternly awakened. At no distant day they will all have passed from the stage of action, and then impartial history will award its meed of praise or blame. Yet now, it may be said of Dr. Cuyler, that at no period did he fail to command the unabated respect and affection of those with whom he differed in judgment; and at no time did he forget, in the midst of discussion, the true dignity of the Christian gentleman. Dr. Cuyler was the first Vice-President, and, during most of the time, the acting President of the convention which met, prior to the General Assembly of 1837, in the city of Philadelphia, and which defined the doctrine and policy of the Old School party; and he was a leading member, on the part of the Old School party, of the joint committee of the two bodies which endeavored to avert a violent disruption of the Church by a peaceful division. When, at last, division did occur, he was one of the five defendants in the suit instituted by the New School party to test the lawfulness of the action of the majority in the Assembly of 1837, and had the satisfaction of hearing, in the result of that suit, a vindication of the lawfulness and propriety of the policy of which he had been a leading advocate in that General Assembly.

The warm heart and liberal views of Dr. Cuyler induced him to extend the sphere of his labors, not only beyond the circle of his own peculiar charge into the Boards which govern and administer the general institutions of the Presbyterian Church, and in which he was most active and useful, but also into many organizations of public benevolence, where his wise counsels and faithful aid were greatly esteemed. At the time of his decease, and for many years previously, he was the President of the Board of Trustees of Jefferson Medical College. As a man, Dr. Cuyler was naturally friendly, confiding, and social to an unusual degree. With all his

delightful tenderness were united great boldness and manliness of natural intellect, and patience and heroism of heart.

His Christian character was adjusted in fine proportions. The ascetic, the superstitious, the fanatical, or the harsh, had in him no place. Humble before God, he was courteous but not servile before man. A lover of peace, he made no man an offender for a word. His faith bordered not on presumption, and yet it was firm. His love to God's people was strong and self-sacrificing.

As a public servant of the Lord Jesus, he was entitled to great veneration. He ever held fast the form of sound words. At no period of his ministry was he suspected by good men of any defection from the truth. He was beyond all charges of heterodoxy. But he did not rest in heartless orthodoxy. He ever held that it was good to be zealously affected always in a good thing, and he was greatly successful in winning souls to Christ, and in edifying believers. The blessing of God richly descended on him with the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery.

Nor was he less useful in edifying God's people than in the conversion of sinners. He fed the sheep—he fed the lambs. The feeblest and the strongest had each their portion in due season.

But the great success of Dr. Cuyler was not the fruit of other men's labors, but the result of his own toils and progress owned by God. His intimate friend and honored brother, Rev. Dr. De Witt, has said that he had never known a minister whose uniform course in the ministerial and pastoral work had been more distinctly marked by unwearied, assiduous, and punctual devotedness to its duties than that of Dr. Cuyler.

Nor was Dr. Cuyler a mere pastor. His warm heart and liberal views made him the friend of all wise plans of propagating and defending the truth. He was among the most active and influential of all the friends of our national benevolent societies.

In the Presbyterian Church he was very greatly distinguished for the amount of confidence and influence which he acquired while connected with it. He has several times been a member of its highest Judicatory, and when there, how wise and faithful he has been, the records will show, and many will testify.

His long and useful life terminated on the 31st of August, 1850, in a death so peaceful and serene, and so full of Christian hope and





of war belonging to Virginia. While on public duty in James River, in a small craft, he was captured by a tender of the Liverpool frigate; he was carried to Norfolk, put on board a prison-ship, and confined there for several weeks.

It was in the summer of 1776, however, that he commenced his career as an officer of the United States Navy, in the character of a midshipman on board of the brig Lexington, Captain John Barry.

The Lexington sailed, in the autumn of 1776, for Cape François, and a cruise, under the orders of Captain Hallock, the gallant Barry having been appointed to the command of a frigate. In December, 1776, the Lexington was captured by the Liverpool frigate off the capes of Virginia. In consequence of a sudden gale, the captors could take out only the captain and five of the crew, Dale, then acting as master's mate, being one of the number. The officers and crew who remained on board retook the brig, and carried her to Baltimore. Dale was landed, with some of his fellow-prisoners, at Cape Henlopen, in January, 1777. He immediately repaired to Philadelphia, where he was ordered to join the Lexington again, now commanded by Captain Henry Johnson. Dale was several times taken prisoner, and on one occasion was indebted to his own prompt sagacity and persevering boldness for his relief. In February, 1779, after more than a year's captivity, embittered as it was, he again escaped. He accomplished this by walking out of prison in the full uniform of a British officer, the guard having no suspicion of the truth till Dale was enabled to elude pursuit. How he obtained this uniform remained a secret. He repaired without delay to London, and by fortunate management and address, procured a passport to go to France. In a short time he arrived at L'Orient, where, with elate and buoyant spirit, he joined, in the character of master's mate, the renowned Paul Jones.

After three months' employment, at the age of twenty-two, Dale was selected by the discriminating eye of Captain Jones, to be his first lieutenant, and was in service with him on board the American frigate *Bonne Homme Richard*, of forty guns and three hundred and seventy-five men, in the engagement with the British frigate *Serapis*, Captain Pearson, of forty-four guns, which was captured by the American frigate. How well he deserved the confidence thus bestowed, was abundantly demonstrated by the noble part



could be adjusted. On his return to Philadelphia in April, 1800, from a Canton voyage, he was happy to find the point of rank settled to his entire satisfaction. He now received orders to hold himself ready for important service, and in May, 1801, was appointed to command the squadron of observation about to sail from Hampton Roads to the Mediterranean.

Having hoisted his broad pendant on board the President, he sailed on the 1st of June, with the squadron, consisting of the President frigate, Captain James Barron; the Philadelphia frigate, Captain Samuel Barron; the Essex frigate, Captain William Bainbridge; and the schooner Enterprise, Lieutenant Andrew Sterrett. He found lying at Gibraltar the High Admiral of Tripoli, with a ship of twenty-six guns and two hundred and sixty men, and a brig of sixteen guns and one hundred and sixty men. These vessels had arrived only the day before. Although the Admiral disclaimed any knowledge of hostile views on the part of the Bey, his master, yet Commodore Dale formed and acted upon the opinion that he designed to cruise against American vessels in the Western Ocean. The Philadelphia was accordingly ordered to lie on and off Gibraltar, to watch the Tripolitan, and if he ventured out to capture him. In despair of eluding this vigilance, the Admiral soon dismantled his ships and discharged his crews. Authentic information obtained in the Mediterranean, placed beyond doubt the hostile intentions of the Bey, and confirmed the propriety and value of the determination of the American commander.

In the summer of 1802, Commodore Dale arrived in Hampton Roads. In this squadron, and under the sailor-like accomplishments of Commodore Dale, several of our gallant naval officers received their earliest instruction, and the noble stamp of seamanship which proved so true in the war of 1812.

During the war of 1812, he was one day accosted by the celebrated punster, Judge Richard Peters, who said that "he had just heard that the British General Hill was about landing some where below on the Delaware. If such be the case," said the Judge, "*I suppose it will be up hill and down dale;*" a pun rather at the expense of the Americans.

There is one trait of Commodore Dale's character which must not be omitted. He himself deemed it of far more importance



various literary enterprises, writing much for periodicals, and being at one time the editor of the *Columbian Magazine*. In 1801, he was appointed, by President Jefferson, Attorney of the United States for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. About this time he recovered against Fenno, an editor, \$2500 for a libel. In October, 1814, he was appointed by Mr. Madison, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, as successor of G. W. Campbell; and in March, 1815, he undertook the additional trust of Secretary at War, and performed the task, on the return of peace, of reducing the army. He resigned his honorable office, and returned to the practice of the law at Philadelphia, in November, 1816; but in a few weeks his earthly career was closed. While at Trenton, New Jersey, he was attacked with the gout in the stomach, of which he died, soon after he reached home, January 16th, 1817, aged fifty-seven years. His wife, whom he married in 1780, was of Devonshire, England. Mr. Dallas had great decision and energy, and was very eminent as a lawyer. He excelled in conversation, and his manners were highly polished. While in office he promoted the establishment of a tariff, and of the last national bank. He published *Features of Jay's Treaty*, 1795; *Speeches on the Trial of Blount and the Impeachment of the Judges*; *the Laws of Pennsylvania, with Notes*; *Address to the Society of Constitutional Republicans*, 1805; *Reports of Cases in the Courts of the United States and Pennsylvania*, 4 vols., 1806-7; *Treasury Reports*; *Exposition of the Causes and Character of the War of 1812*, 1815. He left, unfinished, *Sketches of a History of Pennsylvania*. His son, the Honorable George M. Dallas, proposed, in 1817, to publish his works in three volumes; but they have not been forthcoming to this date,—1859.



## JAMES ALEXANDER DALLAS.

JAMES ALEXANDER DALLAS, son of Alexander James Dallas, was born in the year 1791. He entered the American navy in 1805, when only fourteen years of age; but his liberal education and talents, and, above all, his laudable ambition to attain eminence in his profession, enabled him to become a distinguished commander. He served with Commodore Rogers, on board the *President*, in 1812; and afterwards, with Commodore Chauncey, on Lake Ontario. He also accompanied Commodore Porter in his cruise for the extermination of the West India pirates. He was a brother of the Hon. George M. Dallas. He died in 1844, at the age of fifty-three years.

## JACOB A. DALLAS.

JACOB A. DALLAS, the well-known popular artist, died in New York City, September 9th, A.D. 1857.

Mr. Dallas was born in Philadelphia, in the year 1825. He was the son of an eminent merchant, and the cousin of Hon. George M. Dallas, Minister to England. At the age of eight years he moved with his parents to Missouri, where he studied at Ames College, and, after a due course of instruction, graduated at the age of eighteen. He then returned to Philadelphia, and attended the Life and Antique School, under Professor Otis, the celebrated portrait painter. About eleven years ago he went to New York, where he has since resided.

His talents, which were of the highest order, were employed upon all the principal illustrated works that have been produced in New York for many years. He was one of the chief illustrators of "Harper's," "Putnam's," "Mrs. Stephens'," "Frank Leslie's," and other popular periodicals; while many of the larger volumes, issued by the best publishers of New York, were wholly indebted to his

pencil for the valuable engravings which they contained. Mr. Dallas married Miss Mary Kyle, the daughter of Mr. Joseph Kyle, the celebrated artist. The union was a happy one. Miss Kyle was also well known as an artist, and was possessed of considerable literary ability. Everything promised well for the success of the young couple in life, when Mr. Dallas was seized with dysentery, which, passing into consumption of the bowels, terminated in his death.

As a man, Mr. Dallas was beloved by all who had the advantage of his friendship. A truer friend, a more genial companion, never existed. His early death is deplored by all who knew him, and is a loss to the profession which he adorned that will not in a long time be repaired.

## WILLIAM DARKE.

WILLIAM DARKE was a brave officer during the Revolutionary war, and was born in Philadelphia County in 1736, and, when a boy, accompanied his parents to Virginia. In the nineteenth year of his age he joined the army under General Braddock, and shared in the dangers of his defeat in 1755. In the beginning of the war with Great Britain he accepted a captain's commission, and served with great reputation till the close of the war, at which time he held the rank of Major. In 1791, he received from Congress the command of a regiment in the army under General St. Clair, and bore a distinguished part in the unfortunate battle with the Indians on the 4th of November in the same year. In this battle he lost a favorite son, and narrowly escaped with his life. In his retirement, during his remaining years, he enjoyed the confidence of the State which had adopted him, and was honored with the rank of Major-General in the militia. He died, at his seat, in Jefferson County, Virginia, November 26th, 1801, in the sixty-sixth year of his age.

## LYDIA DARRACH.

"LYDIA DARRACH, the subject of this brief sketch, was a Quakeress of Philadelphia, and for a noble deed, she deserves to hold a place in every book of a similar character to this.

"During the war of the Revolution, General Howe's headquarters were in Second Street, the fourth door below Spruce, Philadelphia, in a house formerly occupied by General Cadwalader. Directly opposite resided William and Lydia Darrach, members of the Society of Friends. A superior officer of the British army, believed to be the Adjutant-General, fixed upon one of their chambers, a back room, for private conference, and two officers frequently met there, with fire and candles, in close consultation. About the 2d of December, the Adjutant-General told Lydia that they would be in the room at 7 o'clock, and remain late, and that they wished the family to retire early to bed; adding, that when they were going away, they would call her to let them out, and extinguish the fire and candles. She accordingly sent all her family to bed, but, as the officer had been so particular, her curiosity was excited. She took off her shoes, put her ear to the key-hole of the conclave, and overheard an order read for all the British troops to march out late in the evening of the 4th, and attack General Washington's army, then encamped at White Marsh. On hearing this, she returned to her chamber, and laid down. Soon after, the officer knocked at the door, but she rose only at the third summons, having feigned herself asleep. Her mind was so much agitated that she could neither eat or sleep; supposing it in her power to save the lives of thousands of her fellow-countrymen, but not knowing how she was to convey the information to General Washington, not daring to confide it to her husband. The time left, however, was short. She quickly determined to make her way as soon as possible to the American outposts, where she had a son who was an officer of the American army. She informed her family that as she was in want of flour, she would go to Frankford for some. Her husband insisted she should take her servant-maid

with her, but, to his surprise, she positively refused. She got access to General Howe, and solicited, what he readily granted, a pass through the British troops on the lines. She encountered on her way an American Lieutenant-Colonel (Craig) of the light-horse, who knew her. To him she disclosed her secret, having obtained from him a solemn promise never to betray her, as her life might be at stake with the British. He conducted her to a house near at hand, directed something for her to eat, and hastened to headquarters, where he immediately acquainted General Washington with what he had heard. Washington made, of course, all preparations for baffling the meditated surprise. Lydia Darrach returned home with her flour; sat up alone to watch the movements of the British troops, and heard their footsteps; but when they returned in a few days after, did not dare to ask a question, though solicitous to learn the event. The next evening, the Adjutant-General came in, and requested her to walk up to his room, as he wished to put questions to her. She followed him in terror; and when he locked the door, and begged her, with an air of mystery, to be seated, she was sure that she was either suspected or betrayed. He inquired earnestly whether any of her family was up the last night when he and the other officers met: she told him they all retired at eight o'clock. He observed, 'I know you were asleep, for I knocked at your door three times before you heard me. I am entirely at a loss to imagine who gave General Washington information of our intended attack, unless the walls of the house could speak. When we arrived near Whitemarsh, we found all their cannon mounted, and the troops prepared to receive us; and we have marched back like a parcel of fools.'

"By the cunning and coolness of a Quaker lady, General Howe was frustrated in his design to surprise the American camp; the American army was perhaps saved by her, and Washington finally concluded to go into winter quarters at Valley Forge, with his faithful band of patriots and soldiers."—*Watson's Annals*.

## ISAAC R. DAVIS.

BY JOSEPH R. CHANDLER.

ISAAC R. DAVIS, so well known in the business parts of the country and abroad, was born in the year 1809, in Montgomery County, on or near the estate of Mr. Isaac Roberts, whose name he bore. He was sent to Friends' School, Westtown, Chester County, and profited by the plain but thorough instruction of that place.

An old and much-respected merchant of Philadelphia, the late John Cook, seemed to have discovered in the young Davis those talents which make the merchant, and knowing that the capital of the youth must be rather in his attainments than his possessions, the farseeing and foreseeing Friend made exertions to procure young Davis a situation in the store of the late Henry C. Corbit. After the accomplishment of his apprenticeship, Mr. Davis was connected with the large importing house of Fehr & Co., and was the business man of that extensive concern in this city. When the business of that house was brought to a close, Mr. Davis connected himself with his former employer, whose sister he had married, and was one of the firm of Corbit, Davis & Co.

In these different kinds of business the talents of Mr. Davis were conspicuous and eminently promotive of prosperity; and his integrity was acknowledged by all who possessed the means of judging of his leading characteristics. But it was only as a man buying and selling that people could thus judge of his abilities. The exercise of a higher range of interests than had been called into action was not rendered necessary; and had Mr. Davis continued in either of the firms which we have noticed, he would probably have retired with the character of an excellent merchant and a pure-hearted man: qualities indeed highly honorable to the possessor and useful as examples to society. But, in 1841, Mr. Davis was admitted a partner in the house of Lovering & Co., extensive sugar refiners, and at once he became interested in questions connected with political economy, and consequently with measures of national conside-



ration. The public mind was divided on the subject of protecting the industry of the country, and mercantile opinion detected also curious anomalies in existing laws relative to portions of foreign trade, by which the great interests of American business were injuriously affected.

We speak of Isaac R. Davis as a public man, and we mean so ; we mean exactly what we say. He was eminently a public man. No business, no pleasure (no other pleasure, we mean), no home claims, induced him to neglect a call of his fellow-citizens, for services where his talents and experience were deemed of more consequence than those which were elsewhere available ; and with whatever regret he might have left the path of private business, or the attraction of a delightful home, no sooner did he present himself at the call of the public, than the duty of obedience seemed to restore the pleasure of which his withdrawal from domestic enjoyment had deprived him.

There are hundreds of our fellow-citizens in Philadelphia, in Washington, in New York, and Boston, who can bear testimony to the cheerful devotion of time and talents which Mr. Davis presented in committees, in preparatory and public meetings ; coming as if his whole enjoyment lay in that channel, and laboring as if his whole talents and attainments were in that direction. That was to be a public man. Mr. Davis was not a public officer ; he shrunk from the display and the distinction of place, but not from the toils and drudgery which place requires. Honored with calls to accept situations of public trust, he invariably found means to evade the entanglement, while he encouraged and assisted those who accepted, by his advice, and allowed them to profit by his labors and attainments. We do not know any office which Isaac R. Davis would have accepted which did not make its distinction rest upon philanthropic sacrifices, and whose honors would have been the silent thanks of those who have few channels of access to public acknowledgment. The reward would have been the consciousness of duty performed.

We have been speaking of Mr. Davis as a public man, and it was as such, indeed, that we desired to speak of him ; but we wish also to show how he became a public man ; how he acquired the confidence which made him public. It was by talents of a high order,



facility with which the advice was given and the success that followed its adoption, than by the age and circumstances of those who came to place themselves and their complicated affairs under the direction of one so much their junior. The success of the plans and course which he had advised was not a subject upon which Mr. Davis had anything to say; but he must have greatly enjoyed the contemplation of those, while his heart must have been grieved at the shipwreck of schemes undertaken against his asked opinion, and prosecuted by means such as he could not have approved. How many live to bless his memory for success obtained through means which he recommended we do not know. There are some we do know who regret that, in matters of importance to themselves, they did not adopt the advice they solicited from him; though he was the last one to point out the connection between their failure and their neglect of his advice, or to refuse further assistance because of that neglect.

It was not alone as a counsellor that Mr. Davis made himself useful to his business friends—he knew how to give additional value to his advice, by adding to the means of adopting it fully; and many felt the benefits of his discriminating friendship, not only in direct assistance, but in that other mode, so agreeable to a young business man, which enlarges his sales by increasing the number of his customers; a mode which, while it proceeds from a charitable disposition, never wounds the self-respect of the recipient. Few men, in such matters, acted more entirely upon a well-established principle. Every form of benefit which he conferred was of the kind best adapted to the situation of the beneficiary, and seemed, in the eyes of the uninterested, to be only an ordinary exercise of kindness. He who *gives*, assists others *to be*. He who promotes the business of another, assists him *to do*.

The qualities which forced Mr. Davis into public action, and gave importance to his movements, were those which endeared him in his social relations. He had friends, such as belong to and are worthy of qualities like his; friends from similarity of feeling; friends from long co-operation in similar efforts; friends from community of sentiment; friends from deep reverence for the virtues which distinguished the man, and illustrated the character of the merchant. And among all these he had an enjoyment reserved for a mind and

temper that could deserve such friends. Apart from public labors, apart from the business of the counting-room, he could mingle with those in the spirit which might be peculiar to each, and find and give enjoyment in that perfect absence of reserve which is not often the result of business pursuits and mixed association. The staidness of religious education, the sobriety of fixed Christian habits, and the freedom of untrammelled opinion, gave his society a zest for the thoughtful as well as the joyous; and if at times he could not participate in that which afforded pleasure to others, he never damped the rational enjoyment of friends by any affectation of reserve, or by his conduct intimated that that could not be proper which was only opposed to his taste.

Mr. Davis was a man of inquiry, and his views and opinions were generally marked by great liberality. He examined closely, deliberated carefully, and then adhered to his conclusions. It was not difficult, on any question that was likely to occupy public attention, to guess how he would think, or which side he would adopt.

No one who might differ from him ever thought that the perfect liberty of social intercourse was to be abridged by that difference, or that his friendship and its beautiful fruits were to be lost to him who might have arrived at different conclusions. Satisfied with his own views, he uttered them freely when they were asked, or where expediency required their utterance. And he was tolerant toward opposing sentiment, and patient and forbearing to their exposition. As he would have looked with contempt upon any who should have made his speculative views the cause of hostility, so he would have blushed at detecting in his own motives the least feeling of unkindness arising out of opposition of opinion. Still less would he have found in creeds the occasion of proscription, or have followed up with the ingenuity of sophistry the possibility of the tendency of such creeds, till he had reached a cause for hostility. He was in act a liberal-minded Christian.

We have referred hastily to Mr. Davis as a citizen, a business man, and a friend; and in all these relations he stands in a beautiful light. We never heard his motives impugned in any public or private transactions in which he had been engaged; we never heard imputed to him any views but what might have been openly avowed at every step of the transaction, and which were applauded

at the close. There are other relations in which Mr. Davis stood, that we should delight in noticing, but that we feel that we should wound the delicacy which is so true to his nature, and made part of the sympathy between him and his close associates. As a son, as a brother, as a husband and a father, the life of Mr. Davis was marked with that deep affection that constrains respect, and that unfailing confidence which caused him to be loved as few men have been loved, and to be mourned with that undying grief which seeks its assuagement only in the scriptural mourner's consolation, "I shall go unto him, he shall not again return unto me."

In referring to the character of Mr. Davis, as illustrated by his intercourse with his fellow men, we have spoken of him as almost constantly employed in directing his own business, or perfecting and carrying out plans of public benefit; by far the greater portion of his time was given to others. 'This tax upon the energies must tell on the constitution: it did tell powerfully on Mr. Davis. He visited Europe once to recruit his health, after some extraordinary exertions; and he probably would have derived the desired benefit from his excursion, had not the novelty of the scene and greatness of the plans of business abroad so excited his attention and enlisted his sympathy, by their suggestion of benefits to be wrought at home, that he made a considerable portion of his visit as laborious and as wasting as were his customary employments. Undoubtedly the attack from which Mr. Davis suffered some years since, and which, by a repetition, caused his death, was the consequence of exertions beyond the power of his constitution; he fell a martyr to his desire to do all he could for the community of which he was a part.

But, while Mr. Davis was a laborious and eminently successful merchant, we deem it due to his memory to say that he triumphed in the *success*, rather than in the profits, of his business. And that those exertions, which told so heavily upon his constitution, were much less given to his own pursuits than to those plans for public good which occupied the attention of business men, and were to be aided by the knowledge and devotion such as he could bring to any enterprise.

Mr. Davis died at his country seat, in Montgomery County, in the immediate vicinity of Philadelphia, on Wednesday, the 4th Feb-



ruary, 1857. With no presumptive confidence in his own merits, but with a consciousness of having sought to discharge with fidelity all the duties of life, and a sense of having done injustice to no man, he trusted in the goodness of that God who had, from his infancy, sustained him, and closed a life of continued usefulness with a death of peaceful resignation. There was a gloom in the business circles when it was announced that Isaac R. Davis was dead. Business men felt that an able adviser, a faithful promoter of mercantile prosperity, an honest, truthful man, had been withdrawn in the midst of usefulness; and the young and enterprising, the hopeful and the good, saw that they had lost a friend who, in all emergencies, would have made the path of life less thorny.

We have failed in the object we had in view in preparing this notice of the life and death of Isaac R. Davis, if we have not led some of our readers to think of the lesson which that life suggests. It tells us of a certainty of success which belongs to virtue, and shows that it is not capital that makes the true business man, for Mr. Davis began without a dollar of capital. That it is not rich relatives, for he depended on none. His own abilities, directed by principles of sterling integrity, love of truth, and a constantly operative sense of justice to all, and by indefatigable energies wrought out for him the position and wealth which he acquired, and procured to the community in which he resided the inestimable benefits of his judicious public spirit and the beauty of his example; an example which, however brilliant, is imitable, while the success which he achieved is open to all who will adopt and use the means.

The business portion of Philadelphia met with a loss of great magnitude in the death of Mr. Davis. As energy, talents, and integrity were elements of the success with which our city has been blessed of late, those who participated in the counsels and exertions of Mr. Davis, co-advisers and co-workers with him for public good, can best appreciate the value of his life and the loss which is sustained in his death; and they will not fail, at all times, amid the generous rivalry for commercial distinction, to recall the services of one who, for so many years, was of them, and with them, in all that involved the good of our city, and illustrated the character of a Philadelphia merchant.

The funeral of Mr. Davis, which took place on Friday, the 6th

February, 1857, from his residence on the border of Montgomery County, about eight miles from the centre of Philadelphia, denoted the estimation in which the deceased was held. The hour was, necessarily, one in which business men are much occupied, and the travel greatly impeded by a melting snow, yet hundreds left the city to join the appropriate manifestation of respect.

Nor, perhaps, will it be indelicate to allude to a portion of the services on the melancholy occasion. They were simple and appropriate to the wishes and customs of the religious society of which Mr. Davis was a member. And, since Mr. Davis owed much of the beauty and usefulness of his characteristics to maternal training, it was beautifully appropriate that a female member of the Society should have led the exercises; and hearts were warmed and tears were shed at the monitory address. The beautiful eulogy pronounced was not directly on the dead one before her; but it was on that virtue, that righteousness, which so dignifies a man, and exalts a nation. And the silent, tearful auditors did justice to the words of the speaker, and the merits of the departed, by confessing that the dead had been the true exponent of those virtues which the living had extolled. We leave to other pens, and other occasions, the office of making the community fully understand its obligation to one who was instant at all seasons to promote public good, by labor, by precept, and example. We confess that we have been deterred, in part, from a full discharge of the office we assumed, by a deference to some feeling of the living, and not by a want of appreciation of the pure principles, or a want of knowledge of the beautiful acts of the deceased. While our city mourns the loss of such a man, it will be the future boast of its citizens that Isaac R. Davis was one of their number.



Westtown Boarding School, and \$11,000 to the contributors of the Pennsylvania Hospital, for the benefit of that institution, he left some \$225,000 to \$250,000 to his executors, to dispose of according to their discretion, to the different charitable and benevolent institutions, and individuals among the suffering and deserving poor of the city and county of Philadelphia.

### GEORGE DE BENNEVILLE, M.D.

DR. DE BENNEVILLE was born, November, 1760, in Branchtown, in the twenty-second ward of the city of Philadelphia. His father was a native of London, where his parents resided after fleeing from the persecution to which the Huguenots in France were subjected.

His education was obtained in the vicinity of Branchtown, and under the care of his father. He commenced the study of medicine in his father's office, and also under Dr. Joseph Peiffer, of Philadelphia. He assisted his father's practice for some time, and was also engaged in connection with his brother-in-law, Dr. Jonathan Bertolette.

When the British took possession of the city of Philadelphia, his father, who was quite aged, retired to Reading, Berks County, with the females of the family, leaving his son and son-in-law in charge of his practice and property. His eldest son, Dr. Daniel de Benneville, joined the army as a surgeon. The outer pickets of both the American and British armies were in the immediate vicinity of the family, and the household were frequently disturbed and invaded by patrolling parties, who not unfrequently supplied themselves with portions of the crops from the fields and garden. On one occasion, they saved their last cow by interceding with a British officer, who told them to drive her in the kitchen and bolt the door.

A short time after Burgoyne surrendered, Dr. De Benneville's house was entered by robbers, his wife knocked down senseless





## STEPHEN DECATUR.

(From the National Portrait Gallery.)

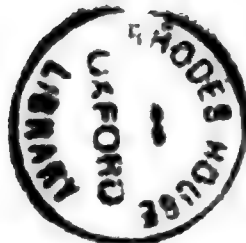
STEPHEN DECATUR was born in the County of Worcester, upon the Eastern Shore of Maryland, on the 5th January, 1779. His father, Stephen Decatur, a native of Newport, Rhode Island, was a captain in the United States Navy from its establishment until our difficulties with the French republic, when he retired from the ocean. He died in Philadelphia, in 1808.

His son, Stephen, entered the navy in 1798, as midshipman, on board the frigate *United States*, under the command of Commodore Barry.

In 1801, he sailed as first lieutenant of the *Essex*, one of Commodore Dale's squadron, to the Mediterranean, and he went out with the second expedition to the same station, as first lieutenant of the *New York*. When at Malta he had a rencontre with a British officer, which terminated fatally; when he was suspended, and sent home in the *Chesapeake* as a passenger. After his conduct in this affair had been investigated, he was selected to join Commodore Preble's squadron, then lying before Tripoli. Arrived there, he took command of the schooner *Enterprise*, in which he engaged, and soon captured a Tripolitan ketch, in sight of the town. This little prize was afterwards called the *Intrepid*.

After this, Lieutenant Decatur conceived the daring project of recapturing or destroying the frigate *Philadelphia*, as she lay in the harbor of Tripoli. With great difficulty he obtained the Commodore's sanction to his perilous enterprise; but, having at last gained his consent, Decatur manned the *Intrepid* with seventy volunteers, and accompanied with other young officers, all of whom have since acquired fame, he sailed from Syracuse, on the 3d of February, 1804, in company with the United States brig *Siren*, Lieutenant Stewart, who was to take off the men in his boats, in





Decatur their thanks and a sword ; and he was promoted to the rank of post captain, with the approbation of the officers over whose heads he was raised.

The following spring Commodore Preble determined to make an attack on Tripoli ; and, having obtained the loan of some gun-boats and bombards from the King of Naples, he gave the command of one division of them to Captain Decatur. These boats were manned by a mixed crew of Americans and Neapolitans, but the latter appeared to have contributed little or nothing to the success of the day.

The signal to prepare for action was made from the Commodore's ship, the *Constitution*, on the morning of the 3d August, and at nine o'clock the squadron began to bombard the town and the vessels in the harbor. The gun-boats led on by Decatur advanced in a line to attack the Tripolitan gun-boats, which were moored along the mouth of the harbor, and within musket-shot of the batteries. He ordered the bowsprits of all the boats of his division to be unshipped, and every preparation made to board the boats of the enemy ; he then advanced through a heavy fire from the battery and gun-boats, and boarded one of the boats with twenty-seven Americans : the deck was cleared in a few minutes, and Decatur was about to take his prize out of the line, when a boat, which had been commanded by his brother, Lieutenant James Decatur, came under his stern ; and he was informed that his brother, after capturing one of the enemy's boats, had been treacherously slain by the commander, who was then making for the port. He waited to hear no more, but hastened to overtake the assassin, and avenge his brother : with his single boat he pursued the retreating foe beyond the line of the enemy ; he succeeded in laying his boat alongside, and threw himself on board with eleven of his men, all the Americans he had left. The fight continued on deck for twenty minutes, and but four of his men remained unwounded. Decatur now singled out the commander, who was the special object of his vengeance. With his cutlass he attempted to cut off the head of the spoutoon with which his antagonist was armed ; but striking the iron, the treacherous steel broke at the hilt, and he received a wound in the right arm and breast. They then closed, and after a fierce struggle both fell. The Turk endeavored to stab him with a dagger ; but Decatur seized his arm



Legislatures, and the principal cities of the Union, testified their high sense of his services by votes of thanks and costly presents.

In 1813, he tried to get to sea with the *United States*, the *Macedonian*, and the *Hornet*, through Long Island Sound; but was forced to run into the mouth of the Thames, in Connecticut, by a squadron of British ships, of much superior force. He lay off New London several months, without any opportunity of going to sea.

Decatur could not bear to be thus cooped up within sight of the ocean without using every expedient in his power to relieve himself. He sent a challenge to the commander of the blockading squadron, Sir Thomas M. Hardy, offering to meet two British frigates with the *United States* and *Macedonian*; but the invitation was not accepted.

At length the two frigates were dismantled, and Decatur returned to New York, where he took command of a squadron destined for the East Indies; and having appointed a rendezvous for the other ships, he put to sea, in the frigate *President*, on the 14th of January, 1815.

Owing to some mistake of the pilot, the ship in going out grounded on the bar, and continued to strike heavily for an hour and a half, which greatly retarded her sailing. The next morning the British squadron were discovered in pursuit, consisting of the *Majestic* razee, the *Endymion*, *Tenedos*, and *Pomona* frigates, and a brig. It was soon apparent that the *Endymion* was the fastest ship. Decatur, always rich in resources, projected a plan of escape in accordance with the daring of his character, in which, had he succeeded, he would have reached the summit of naval renown. His design was to lead the *Endymion* as far as possible from her consorts; board her with all his crew, who were in readiness at a moment's warning; abandon or destroy the *President*, and then escape; but the project was defeated by the caution of his antagonist, who suspecting the *ruse* avoided it, and preserved the advantage of his position so long as Decatur kept his course. Confident of his ability to throw the *Endymion* out of the combat before the other ships could come to her assistance, Decatur changed his course and made battle. He completely crippled his adversary's ship, and silenced her battery. He then pursued his course



as before. By this time the other ships had opened their fire upon the President. To escape was out of the question, to fight the squadron with his single ship with a view to conquest was hopeless, and an unjustifiable waste of the lives of his men; he therefore surrendered to the commander of the squadron. The British have endeavored to make it appear that the President surrendered to the *Endymion*; it was not so. There were intervals of minutes in which she did not fire a gun before the President left her, nor did she fire a gun when the latter changed her course and might have been raked.

Decatur soon after returned home, and was at once employed on his favorite element.

The Algerines, influenced, as was supposed, by British agents, but more probably by the hope of plunder, had taken advantage of our war with Great Britain to capture some of our merchantmen, and enslave their crews. That war having ended, a squadron was sent to the Mediterranean, under command of Commodore Decatur. He captured an Algerine frigate of forty-nine guns after a short action—in which the celebrated *Rais Hamida* was killed,—and a brig of twenty-two guns. He arrived before Algiers on the 22d of June, 1815, and at once demanded a treaty. His terms were stated, with all possible brevity, to be a relinquishment of all annual tribute or ransom for prisoners; property taken from Americans to be restored, or paid for; all enslaved Americans to be released; and no American ever again to be held as a slave. The relinquishment of tribute was the most difficult point to settle, as it was contended that it might be used as a precedent by the European powers, and prove destructive to the Dey. “Even a little powder,” said the Algerine negotiator, “might prove satisfactory.” “If,” replied Decatur, “you insist upon receiving powder as tribute, you must expect to receive balls with it.” In forty-eight hours the treaty was negotiated, giving to Americans privileges and immunities never before granted by a Barbary state to a Christian power. He then proceeded to Tunis and Tripoli, and obtained redress by similar summary process, and returned home in the autumn of the same year. He was subsequently appointed one of the Board of Navy Commissioners, and

resided in the city of Washington, at Kalorama, formerly the seat of Joel Barlow.

We now come to the last act of Commodore Decatur's life—the result of which was his untimely death—with painful emotions. In October, 1819, a correspondence was commenced between Commodore Barron and Decatur in relation to expressions said to have been used by the latter disrespectful to the former. Decatur promptly denied having used the language stated, but left the inference open that he had not been particular to conceal his opinions, which were not very favorable to the former commander of the Chesapeake. As is generally the case in such controversies, the difficulties became less likely to be adjusted the more they were discussed. The correspondence, on the part of Decatur, was remarkable for its keen sarcasm and severity, beyond the bounds of justification, either by his position or the letters of Commodore Barron. Both the parties reprobated duelling, and yet the controversy ended—as such a bitter controversy could only end—in a duel. They met at Bladensburg, on the morning of the 22d of March, 1820. At the first fire both were wounded,—Decatur mortally, Barron dangerously. Commodore Decatur was conveyed to Washington to his distracted wife, and died the same evening. His remains were attended to the vault at Kalorama, in which they were deposited, by a great part of the male population of Washington and the adjacent country, by nearly all the officers of Government, members of Congress, and representatives of foreign governments resident there.

Thus Decatur, in the prime of life, in the enjoyment of his country's highest regard and confidence, a husband, on whom the cherished object of his love was entirely dependent, threw away his valuable life in what is misnamed an "affair of honor," and added one more to the list of victims of a barbarous code, which few of his profession have had the moral courage to resist.



stroyed his bodily constitution and his hopes of fortune, and sacrificed all to indolence and imprudence. He died at the early age of forty-three, in Philadelphia, and was buried in St. Peter's church-yard. A monument, which bears the following inscription, was subsequently erected to his memory :—

JOSEPH DENNIE,  
 Born at Lexington, Massachusetts,  
 August 30, 1768 :  
 Died at Philadelphia, January 7, 1812 :  
 Endowed with talents and qualified by education  
 To adorn the Senate and the Bar ;  
 But following the impulse of a genius  
 Formed for converse with the Muses,  
 He devoted his life to the literature of his country.  
 As author of " The Lay Preacher,"  
 And as first editor of " The Portfolio,"  
 He contributed to chasten the morals, and to  
 Refine the taste of this nation.  
 To an imagination lively, not licentious,  
 A wit sportive, not wanton,  
 And a heart without guile, he  
 United a deep sensibility, which endeared  
 Him to his friends, and an ardent piety,  
 Which we humbly trust recommended him  
 To his God.  
 Those friends have erected this tribute of their  
 Affection to his memory.  
 To the mercies of that God is their resort,  
 For themselves and for him.

MDCCCXIX.

## SHARP DELANY.

SHARP DELANY, a native of the county of Monaghan, Ireland, was a druggist in Philadelphia before the war. In 1775-6, he was an active member of committees, appointed on behalf of the citizens, in favor of independence. He subscribed five thousand pounds to supply the army in 1780. After the Revolution, he was a member of the Legislature, and an honorary member of the Society of the Cincinnati. He was an active member of the Committee of Merchants of Philadelphia, prior to the establishment of the Federal Constitution, in preparing the measures (which were afterwards carried into effect), for the regulation of commerce; and also a member of the Hibernian Society. General Washington appointed him Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, which office he held until his death. He enjoyed the friendship and confidence of all the public men of the day. One of his daughters is supposed to be still living.

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## WILLIAM POTTS DEWEES, M.D.

DR. DEWEES, an eminent physician of Philadelphia, was born at Pottsgrove, in Pennsylvania, May 5th, 1768. Being early left fatherless, possessing little property, and not having the advantage of a superior education, he nevertheless improved all the means at his command, studied Latin and French, served some time with an apothecary, attended medical lectures, and, in 1789, without receiving a regular diploma, commenced the practice of medicine. He was then only twenty-one years of age. In 1793, he removed to Philadelphia, with good prospects of success. Obstetrics then being but little studied in America, women were generally its only practitioners. This department of his profession, therefore, offered to Dr. Dewees a fairer field for distinction than perhaps any other; and he accordingly devoted himself to it in an especial degree. He



not only made himself familiar with the best French and English writers on the subject, but he also aspired to improve upon their system of practice—an object which he succeeded in accomplishing. His reputation spread throughout the community; and very soon he commenced delivering lectures on obstetrics to a class of medical students. His labors were so incessant and arduous that his health became impaired, and, on this account, in 1812, he relinquished his practice; but, after losing the fortune he had made by embarking in some disastrous speculation, he resumed it in 1817, with great success and pecuniary profit. He was chosen a Professor of Midwifery in the University of Pennsylvania, first as an assistant and subsequently as principal; but his health again failing him, he resigned it in 1835. In 1823, he published, in one volume, a number of essays, which had been occasionally contributed by him to the medical journals. Then followed his “System of Midwifery,” his “Treatise on the Physical and Medical Treatment of Children,” and “A Treatise on the Practice of Medicine.” He died at Philadelphia, May 20, 1841, aged seventy-three years.

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## JOHN DICKINSON.

JOHN DICKINSON, the celebrated author of “The Farmer’s Letters,” the spirited and accurate vindicator of the rights of the Colonies against the pretensions of the British Parliament, and the writer of several of the most important appeals of the old Continental Congress, was a native of Maryland, where he was born in 1732. His parents shortly after removed to Delaware. He studied law at Philadelphia, and prosecuted his studies at the Temple in London. On his return to Philadelphia he practised at the Bar. In 1764, he was one of the members for the county in the House of Assembly of the province, when he defended, in a speech, the privileges of the State against the meditated innovations of the Government. It is characterized by the force of argument, weight, and moderation of expression, by which his style was always afterwards recognized. His “Address to the Committee of Correspondence in Barbadoes,” who had censured the opposition of the

northern Colonies to the Stamp Act, published at Philadelphia, in 1766, is an eloquent and dignified defence of the proceedings of the Colonies. In this he borrowed an illustration, since grown familiar in Congressional speaking. "Let any person," says he, "consider the speeches lately made in Parliament, and the resolutions said to be made there, notwithstanding the convulsions through the British empire, by the opposition of their Colonies to the Stamp Act, and he may easily judge what would have been their situation, in case they had bent down and humbly taken up the burden prepared for them. When the Exclusion Bill was depending in the House of Commons, Colonel Titus made this short speech: 'Mr. Speaker, I hear a lion roaring in the lobby! Shall we secure the door, and keep him there; or shall we let him in, to try if we can turn him out again?'"

"The Farmer's Letters to the Inhabitants of the British Colonies" were printed at Philadelphia in 1767. Dr. Franklin caused them to be reprinted in London the next year, with a preface, which he wrote, inviting the attention of Great Britain to the dispassionate consideration of American "prejudices and errors," if there were such, and hoping the publication of the Letters would "draw forth a satisfactory answer, if they can be answered." In 1769, the book was published at Paris, in French. It consists of twelve letters, written in the character of "a farmer, settled, after a variety of fortunes, near the banks of the River Delaware, in the province of Pennsylvania."

In 1801, he was living at Wilmington, in Delaware. He passed his remaining years in retirement, in the enjoyment of his literary acquisitions, and the society of his friends, who were attracted by his conversation and manners,—dying February 14th, 1808, at the age of seventy-six years.

He had married, in 1770, Mary Norris, of Fairhill, Philadelphia County. John Adams, in 1774, dined with him at this seat, and notices "the beautiful prospect of the city, the river, and the country, fine gardens, and a very grand library. The most of his books were collected by Mr. Norris, once Speaker of the House here, father of Mrs. Dickinson. Mr. Dickinson (he adds) is a very modest man, and very ingenious, as well as agreeable." Again he describes him, in committee duty of Congress, "very modest, deli-

cate, and timid," though he forfeited the character with Adams by, what the latter thought, an attempt to bully him out of his ardent pursuit of independence. Personally Adams describes him, at that time, as subject to hectic complaints: "He is a shadow; tall, but slender as a reed; pale as ashes. One would think, at first sight, that he could not live a month; yet, upon more attentive inspection, he looks as if the springs of life were strong enough to last many years."

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## WILLIAM H. DILLINGHAM.

BY DR. WILLIAM DARLINGTON.

WILLIAM H. DILLINGHAM, the subject of this notice, presented, in his life, one of those striking and exemplary instances in which the descendants of the pilgrim fathers of New England—under their admirable system of educational training, and by their persevering energies—are so often enabled to elevate themselves to a distinguished position among their cotemporaries; and, when their course is run, to leave their

"Footprints in the sands of time."

The immigrant Puritans, and the earlier posterity of those who landed on the Plymouth Rock, were indeed a peculiar people. The history of our race furnishes no parallel to their character and career. Sternly moral, and devoutly religious; animated, moreover, by an indomitable spirit of enterprise, and endowed with a keen perception and thorough appreciation of the inalienable rights of man, they were singularly fitted for their destined mission, namely, the repudiation of tyranny, and the founding of a great democratic Republic in the Western hemisphere. All their undertakings were signalized by a rare combination of the most fervent piety and the shrewdest worldly wisdom. They practically illustrated the significant maxim, derived from the fatherland, in the stirring times of "*The Commonwealth*," *to trust in the Lord, and keep their powder dry.*

From this remarkable and hopeful stock sprang our lamented friend, the course and incidents of whose life it is here proposed very briefly to sketch, and whose sterling worth we are all fain to commemorate. The limits deemed appropriate for this work will admit of little more than a chronological list of dates, events, and employments.

William H. Dillingham, son of Nathan and Rebecca (Fessenden) Dillingham, was born in the town of Lee, in Western Massachusetts, on the 3d of August, 1791. His education, preparatory to a collegiate course, was acquired at Lenox Academy, in the vicinity of his birthplace. At the age of fifteen years, he entered the Sophomore class in Williams College, where he continued a year and a half. The circumstances of his family, however, rendered it expedient to withdraw him from college before his course was completed; but his *alma mater* subsequently (viz. in 1815) conferred on him the honorary degree of A. M.

In the year 1808 he came to Philadelphia, and commenced the study of law under the auspices of the late Charles Chauncey, Esq., a gentleman who was ever his generous friend and faithful counsellor, and for whom, to his latest hour, he cherished the most profound veneration and grateful regard.

In 1811, Mr. Dillingham was admitted to the Bar, and thereupon settled himself, for some time, in the city of Penn, as a practitioner of the law.

With a taste finely cultivated, and a decided predilection for literary and scientific pursuits, he was always ready to aid in establishing and fostering institutions which promised to enhance the intellectual and moral character of the community. Accordingly, we learn that, in 1813, he was one of "half a dozen young men of Philadelphia," who "came together and arranged a plan for the establishment of reading-rooms." From this slender beginning, and the continued "valuable services" of our friend, co-operating with other public-spirited citizens, has resulted the noble institution, which is at once an ornament and a benefaction to our metropolis, under the name of the *Athenæum*.

In the autumn of 1814, when a vandal horde, in a predatory incursion to the Capitol, had burnt our Senate-house, mutilated the classic memorials erected in honor of the gallant dead, destroyed

the national library, and were menacing with like operations every accessible city in our land, the flower of the Philadelphia youth, emulous of their revolutionary sires, promptly rallied in defence of our altars and firesides; and there, in the patriot ranks, we find our friend Dillingham, musket in hand, doing duty as a private soldier, in one of the companies of Washington Guards. Being honorably discharged at the close of the campaign, he returned to his office, and to the practice of his profession.

He continued in Philadelphia until 1817, when he removed to West Chester, the seat of justice in Chester County, Pennsylvania; where, by his diligence, fidelity, and legal ability, he rapidly advanced toward the head of the Bar, among competitors distinguished for talents and professional acumen. He was especially remarked for that exemplary trait in a barrister, of being always well prepared and ready for trial, so far as depended on himself, when his cause was called on.

In 1821 he received the appointment of prosecuting attorney for the county; which office he held until the close of the year 1823.

In the month of May, 1823, he married Christiana, daughter of Joseph H. Brinton, Esq., of Chester County; and thus became identified in feeling and interest with the people among whom he resided. He co-operated cordially in all measures propounded for the public benefit, and was a liberal supporter of all their institutions, religious, educational, literary, and scientific. His professional abilities becoming generally understood, his services were consequently put in requisition in nearly every important case within the sphere of his practice. He was employed as solicitor of the Bank of Chester County for upwards of fifteen years; was one of the founders, and a principal manager of the Chester County Athenæum; was a trustee of the West Chester Academy for seventeen years, and a munificent member of the Chester County Cabinet of Natural Science for nearly twenty years.

In 1837 he was elected to the State Legislature, where he was both active and eloquent in the great cause of education, and in the support of scientific institutions.

In the autumn of 1841, after a residence of nearly a quarter of a century in West Chester, Mr. Dillingham returned to Philadel-



phia, where he passed the residue of his days ; but in retiring from Chester County he by no means ceased to be interested in the concerns of that venerable bailiwick. In all the movements of her people, designed to elevate the pursuits of agriculture and to promote a taste for the refinements of horticulture, he manifested a lively interest. When, in 1847, the Chester County Horticultural Society were projecting their spacious hall, the second edifice, dedicated expressly to Flora and Pomona, in these United States, Mr. Dillingham cheered them on in their generous purpose, by a remarkably able, learned, and persuasive address, which convinced them that in the vocabulary of a people embarked in such an enterprise, in such a region, there should be no such word as fail.

It might be supposed that, by merging himself in our vast and growing metropolis, after so long an absence, he would be lost to public view ; but not so. His qualifications were justly appreciated, and his services speedily secured by various and important establishments, such as the direction of the Public Schools, the Institution for the Blind, for the Deaf and Dumb, the Schuylkill Navigation Company, &c.

In July, 1843, he was elected a member of the "American Philosophical Society;" and justified the choice by his zeal for its prosperity, and his anxiety that it should continue worthy of the great names associated with its early history.

In the latter years of his life, Mr. Dillingham gradually withdrew from the active duties of his profession, though he served as counsel for the Bank of Pennsylvania, from 1846 until 1852, when the feeble state of his health, induced by a slight paralytic affection, caused him to resign.

His infirmities continued to increase, attended with great nervous excitability, though still retaining his mental faculties and his literary predilections in their wonted activity, until the 11th of December, 1854, when he suddenly departed this life. The writer of this has a letter from him, dated December 8th, and received after his death, in which, remarkably enough, he refers, with peculiar interest, to the "proceedings of the American Philosophical Society."

Although the published and avowed productions of his pen are not voluminous, our friend was a frequent contributor of elegant

and judicious essays to the leading journals of the times. He was also the author of several highly finished performances in the character of orations and reviews. Of these, it is sufficient to mention his addresses before the Chester County Cabinet of Natural Science; the Alumni of Williams College; the Chester County Horticultural Society; the Society of the Sons of New England in Philadelphia; and his glowing tribute to the memory of Peter Collinson. His researches, in procuring authentic materials for his discourses, were indefatigable. His literary taste was refined, almost to fastidiousness; and hence his style is terse, chaste, and polished. It may be safely predicated of him as a writer,—*nihil tetigit quod non ornavit*.

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### JOHN SYNG DORSEY, M.D.

JOHN SYNG DORSEY, M.D., Professor of Anatomy, was the son of Leonard Dorsey, and grandson of Edmund Physick. He was born in Philadelphia, December 23d, 1783. He early studied physic with his relative, Dr. Physick, and was Doctor of Medicine at the age of eighteen years. He afterwards visited England and France for his improvement in medical science,—returning home in December, 1804. In 1807, he was elected Adjunct Professor of Surgery with Dr. Physick, at Philadelphia; and, on the death of Dr. Wistar, was chosen Professor of Anatomy. He now attained a height most gratifying to his ambition; but Providence had selected him to teach a salutary lesson on the precarious tenure of life, and the importance of being always prepared for death. On the evening of the day in which he pronounced his eloquent introductory lecture he was attacked with a fever, and in a week died, November 12th, 1818, aged thirty-five years. When, by his express command, he was informed of his state, and apprised of his certain death, he was resigned to the will of heaven. As a Christian, he had practised the duties of religion. With fervor he reiterated his confidence in the atonement of his Saviour. He was thus sustained in an hour when, on the bed of death, the proud warrior would shudder in thinking of the destinies of eternity.

As a surgeon, he was almost unrivalled. Besides papers for the periodical journals, and an edition of Cooper's Surgery, with notes, he published "Elements of Surgery," two volumes, 1813.

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## DAVID JAMES DOVE.

BY JOSHUA FRANCIS FISHER.

MR. DOVE is mentioned, by Alexander Graydon, as a popular satirical poet, about the middle of the last century. He was by birth an Englishman, and had, it is said, gained some ludicrous notoriety in his own country. He was established in Philadelphia as a schoolmaster, before the year 1759; and, soon afterwards, was appointed English teacher in the Philadelphia Academy; but he disagreed with the trustees, and, on the opening of the Germantown Academy, in 1762, became head master in that seminary. Another quarrel soon separated him from that institution, and he erected a house on an adjoining lot, where he established an opposition school; but this undertaking was unsuccessful, and shortly abandoned, and we hear no more of Mr. Dove. He is said to have been a good scholar, and distinguished for his powers of elocution. He had an ardent and peculiar temper, and was whimsical even in his discipline. Amongst several amusing instances, Mr. Graydon gives the following: "He had another contrivance for boys who were late in their morning attendance. This was to despatch a committee of five or six scholars for them, with a bell and lighted lantern; and, in this odd equipage, in broad daylight, the bell all the while tingling, they were conducted to school." As Dove affected strict regard to justice in his dispensations of correction, he once submitted with good humor to the same punishment from his pupils, to their no small gratification and the entertainment of the spectators. As his poetical compositions were generally political or personal satires, their popularity, though great, was only ephemeral; and I do not know that a copy of a single piece is now to be found. I have heard repeated several lines from a very bitter attack

upon William Moore, of Moore's Hall, entitled "Washing the Black-a-moor White," written on the occasion of that gentleman's arrest by the Assembly. The verses of Mr. Dove are characterized as bitterly sarcastic, and sometimes pointedly witty; and he, perhaps, chiefly owed his ill success in this province to his unrestrained propensity to satire.

Mr. Dove was also a caricaturist of considerable reputation, and a few copies of the productions of our provincial Gilray was a treasure to the antiquary. Like his satires, they were political, personal, and moral, and sometimes possessed, it is said, great humor. They were not often engraved; but several copies by the author himself were distributed privately, or hung in the barbers' shops of the city.

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## EDWARD DRINKER.

MR. DRINKER was remarkable for his longevity, and was born December 24th, 1680, in a cabin near the present corner of Walnut and Second Streets, in Philadelphia. His parents had removed to this place from Beverly, Massachusetts. The banks of the Delaware were inhabited, at the time of his birth, by the Indians, and a few Swedes and Hollanders. At the age of twelve years, he went to Boston, where he served an apprenticeship to a cabinet-maker. In the year 1745, he returned to Philadelphia, where he lived till the time of his death. He was four times married, and had eighteen children, all of whom were by his first wife. He died November 17th, 1782, aged one hundred and two years. In his old age, the powers of his mind were very little impaired. He enjoyed so uncommon a share of health, that he was never confined more than three days to his bed. He was a man of an amiable character, and he continued to the last uniformly cheerful and kind. His religious principles were as steady as his morals were pure. He attended public worship about thirty years in the Presbyterian Church under Dr. Sproat, and died in the fullest assurance of a happy immortality. He witnessed the most astonishing changes. He lived to see the spot, where he had picked blackberries and hunted rabbits,

become the seat of a great city, the first in wealth in America. He saw ships of every size in those streams, where he had been used to see nothing larger than an Indian canoe. He saw the first treaty between France and the independent States of America ratified upon the very spot where he had seen William Penn ratify his first and last treaties with the Indians. He had been the subject of *seven crowned heads*!

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## WILLIAM DUANE.

WILLIAM DUANE was born, in 1760, near Lake Champlain, New York, where his parents, natives of Ireland, had shortly before settled. When he was eleven years old, his mother returned to her native country, taking William, her only child, with her. The father had died several years before. Possessed of property, she brought up her son as a person of leisure. At the age of nineteen, by a marriage with a Protestant, he offended his parent, a Roman Catholic, and was at once dismissed from her home, nor was any reconciliation ever after effected. Forced to provide for the maintenance of his family, he learned the art of printing, and was engaged in that trade until the year 1784, when he went to India to seek his fortune. He was successful, and, in a few years, established a newspaper, which he called "The World." In a dispute which arose between the Government and some troops in their employ, the paper sided with the latter. Soon after this, his arrest was ordered by Sir John Shore, the Governor. He was seized by Sepoys, placed on board a vessel, and carried to England. His property, including a valuable library, was confiscated. He endeavored to obtain redress from Parliament and the East India Company, but without success. Again forced to provide for a livelihood, he became a parliamentary reporter, and afterwards an early writer of "The General Advertiser," a newspaper which subsequently became "The London Times." He sided in politics with the party of Horne Tooke and others. In 1795, he came with his family to Philadelphia, where he had passed a few years



when a boy. Here he prepared a portion of a work on the French Revolution, and became connected with "The Aurora" newspaper, recently established by Benjamin Franklin Bache; and after Bache's death, of yellow fever, in 1798, became editor. Under his vigorous management the journal was known throughout the country as the leading organ of the Democratic party. Jefferson attributed his election to the presidency to its exertions. In 1799, the editor was tried with others for seditious riots. They were charged with placing at the doors of a Roman Catholic church printed notices requesting the congregation to meet in the churchyard, and sign a petition against the Alien Law. The notices were torn down, replaced, and defended, and a disturbance thus created, during which Reynolds, one of the parties accused, drew a pistol against one of the congregation, which was forced from his hand. The parties were acquitted.

On the removal of the seat of government to Washington, "The Aurora" became a less influential journal, and was gradually superseded by rival publications at the new city. Duane continued in the editorship until 1822, when he sold out and went to South America, as the representative of the creditors of the republics of that continent. He had sided with the struggles for independence of these communities, and received a vote of thanks from the Congress of Colombia for his exertions; and it was on this account supposed that he would be able to obtain a settlement of the claims in question. He was unable to collect any funds, but made good use of the experience of his journey by publishing a pleasant volume of travels, "A Visit to Colombia, 1822-3. Philadelphia, 1826." After his return, he was appointed Prothonotary of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania for the Eastern District, and retained the office until his death, in 1835. He was also one of the Aldermen for the City of Philadelphia.

In addition to his newspaper writings, and his book of travels, he was the author of "A Military Dictionary," 1810, and "A Handbook for Riflemen," 1813. At one time he commanded the Philadelphia Legion, a volunteer corps, distinguished for superior discipline; and, during the war of 1812-14, filled the office of Adjutant-General of the army for the district in which he was a resident citizen.

## ANTHONY DUCHÉ.

A SINGLE act of a man's life may make him remarkable, if not eminent, and may tend to complete the history of a country and people in their rapid strides of improvement.

The subject of our memoir, Anthony Duché, a respectable Protestant refugee from France, ancestor of the well-known parson Jacob Duché, came over with his wife to Pennsylvania in the same ship with William Penn, who had borrowed a small sum of about thirty pounds from him. After the arrival, Penn offered him, in lieu of the return of the money, "a good bargain," as he said,—a square of ground between Third and Fourth Streets, with only the exception of the burial-ground occupied by Friends on Mulberry and Fourth Streets. It was first offered to Thomas Lloyd, whose wife was the first person buried there. The proprietor observing that he knew the lot was cheap, but that he had a mind to favor him, in return for his kindness, Mr. Duché replied, "You are very good, Mr. Penn, and the offer might prove advantageous, but the money would suit me better."

"Blockhead!" rejoined the proprietor, provoked at his overlooking the intended benefit. "Well, well, thou shalt have thy money; but canst thou not see that this will be a great city in a very short time?" "So I was paid," said Duché, who told this story, "and have ever since repented my own folly."

The above anecdote was told by Charles Thompson, Esq., to Mrs. D. Logan, and to her brother, Joseph P. Norris, at different times, saying he had received it from the son of Mr. Duché.

## REV. JACOB DUCHÉ.

PARSON DUCHÉ was a notable man in his time, and was the son of Anthony Duché, a respectable Protestant refugee, who came out with William Penn.

He was withal a man of some eccentricity, and of a very busy mind, partaking with lively feelings in all the secular incidents of the day. When Junius's Letters first came out, in 1771, he used to descant upon them in the Gazettes of the time, under the signature of "Tamoc Caspina," a title formed by an acrostic on his office, &c., as "the assistant minister of Christ Church and St. Peter's, in Philadelphia." At another time he endeavored to influence General Washington, with whom he was said to be popular as a preacher, to forsake the American cause; and, for this reason, he was obliged to make his escape to England, where he lived and preached for some time, but finally came back to Philadelphia and died.

He was born about the year 1740. He was educated in the college at Philadelphia, where he often distinguished himself. He was a good orator, and a ready versifier. In time he studied theology, went to England for holy orders, and, after his return, became an assistant, and afterwards, in 1775, a rector in Christ Church and St. Peter's. As a preacher, he enjoyed great popularity. His appearance and manners were imposing; his voice was full and musical; his elocution uncommonly graceful; and his sermons oratorical.

But what made his name and fame most conspicuous was his attempt, by letter to General Washington, to bring him over to the British side in the Revolution! It was of course an abortive effort, and had the effect to drive himself away, by flight, from his country and home, so that he remained abroad, in England, till after the peace; then he returned and died among us, repentant and humbled at the course he had taken. His conduct was not so much the result of defection as discouragement. He had, at the beginning of the struggle, set out as an ardent Whig; he had preached,

on public occasions, sermons full of patriotic ardor, and had been elected chaplain of the American Congress, in July, 1776; and while he held this office, he had appropriated his salary to the relief of the families whose members had been slain in battle. But alarmed and terrified, at length, by the increasing gloom and despondency of the period, when the British marched successfully through the Jerseys, and at length occupied Philadelphia, he forsook his former principles and bias, went over to the stronger side, and then wrote his well-known letter to General Washington, to urge *him* to make the same peace for himself and country.

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### THOMAS SPENCE DUCHÉ.

THOMAS SPENCE DUCHÉ was born in the city of Philadelphia, about 1766. His father (who was a schoolmate of Benjamin West), at the time of colonial opposition to Great Britain, was well known as a Tory clergyman, and removed from the land of rebellion.

Mr. Duché, the painter, as a Pennsylvanian, and the son of an old schoolfellow, had peculiar claims on the attention and instruction of Benjamin West; but, as we have seen, the benevolence of West was not confined within narrow limits.

We know very little of the subject of this memoir. His picture of Bishop Seabury,—the first of the three Episcopal clergymen who, for the purpose of being raised to the Episcopacy, and thereby was enabled to build up and sustain the Church, without further reference to the hierarchy of England, was sent to England soon after the peace of 1783,—is well known from Sharpe's engraving from it.

The three clergymen above mentioned were, White, of Pennsylvania, Provost, of New York, and Seabury, of Connecticut. Mr. Duché likewise painted the portrait of Bishop Provost. The engraving, by Sharpe, of Bishop Seabury, is dedicated to Benjamin West, by his grateful friend and pupil.

## EDWARD DUFFIELD.

MR. DUFFIELD was a respectable inhabitant of Philadelphia; very intelligent, and a reading man; and, as a watch and clock maker, at the head of his profession in the city. He was the particular friend, and, finally, executor of Dr. Benjamin Franklin. He made the first medals ever executed in the Province; such as the destruction of the Indians at Kittanning, in 1756, by Colonel Armstrong and others.

When he kept his shop at the northwest corner of Second and Arch Streets, he used to be so annoyed by frequent applications of passing persons to inquire the time of day—for in early days the gentry only carried watches—that he hit upon the expedient of making a clock with a double face, so as to show north and south at once; and this projecting from the second story, it became the first standard of the city. That same old clock is the one now in use at the Lower Dublin Academy, near to which place his son Edward now lives,—1844.

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## GEORGE DUFFIELD, D.D.

GEORGE DUFFIELD, D. D., a minister of Philadelphia, was born October, 1732. After he became a preacher, he was first settled in the town of Carlisle, where his zealous and incessant labors, through the influence of the Divine Spirit, were made effectual to the conversion of many. So conspicuous was his benevolent activity, that the Synod appointed him as a missionary, and he accordingly, in company with Mr. Beatty, visited the frontiers. His talents at length drew him into a more public sphere, and placed him as a pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia. His zeal to do good exposed him to the disease of which he died, February 2d, 1790. Dr. Duffield possessed a vigor-



ous mind, and was considerably distinguished as a scholar. As his readiness of utterance was seldom equalled, he was enabled to preach with uncommon frequency. As he possessed an unconquerable firmness, he always adhered steadily to the opinions he had formed. In the struggle with Great Britain, he was an early and zealous friend of his country. But it was as a Christian that he was most conspicuous, for the religion which he preached was exhibited in his own life. The spirit of the Gospel tintured his whole mind. It rendered him the advocate of the poor, and the friend of the friendless. He sought occasions of advancing the interests of religion and humanity. As a preacher, he was early in life remarkably animated and popular, and his manner was always warm and forcible, and his instructions always practical. Dwelling much on the great and essential doctrines of the Gospel, he had a peculiar talent of touching the conscience and impressing the heart. He published an account of his tour with Mr. Beatty along the frontiers of Pennsylvania; and a thanksgiving sermon for the restoration of peace, December 11th, 1783.

### THOMAS DUNCAN.

THE late Judge Duncan, of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, was a native of Carlisle, Pennsylvania. His father came from Scotland, and was one of the first settlers of Cumberland County. Young Duncan was educated under Dr. Ramsay, the historian, and studied law in Lancaster, under Judge Yeates. His rise was rapid, and, in less than ten years from his admission to the Bar, he was at the head of his profession in the midland counties of this State, and for nearly thirty years sustained this rank. He was appointed to the bench of the Supreme Court in March, 1817, by Governor Snyder, in place of Judge Yeates, who had died. He shortly after removed to Philadelphia, where he resided until his death, which took place on the 16th November, 1827.

At the Bar, Mr. Duncan was distinguished by quickness and acuteness of discernment, promptness of decision, and accurate and

practical knowledge of men and things, and a ready recourse to the rich stores of his own mind and memory. Without the possession of many of the natural requisites of oratory, he was a skilful, ardent, and indeed eloquent speaker and advocate. During the ten years that he sat upon the bench, associated with the late Chief Justice Tilghman, and afterwards with Chief Justice Gibson, he contributed largely to the stock of judicial opinion, and the reports contain abundant memorials of his industry, learning, and talents. Judge Duncan survived his excellent friend Judge Tilghman but a few months.

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### JOHN DUNLAP.

JOHN DUNLAP was born in Strabane, County of Tyrone, Ireland. He emigrated at the early age of eight or nine, to America, where he came to live with his uncle, William Dunlap, who was one of the first printers and publishers in Philadelphia, and who, under Benjamin Franklin, became postmaster at Lancaster, Pennsylvania. At eighteen years of age, John, the subject of this notice, having served an apprenticeship of about ten years, took the business of his uncle, and in November, 1771, issued in Philadelphia the first number of "The Pennsylvania Packet or General Advertiser." He afterwards became one of the most extensive and successful printers and editors of our country. From September, 1777, to July, 1778, whilst the British were in possession of Philadelphia, his newspaper, devoted to the cause of the Colonies against the mother country, was published at Lancaster. From 1784, it was published daily; David C. Claypole, at one time his apprentice, having, about this time, become his partner. This was the first daily paper published in the United States. His interest was ultimately purchased by David C. Claypole, and he transferred the paper to Mr. Z. Poulson, who continued to publish it until within about twenty-five years, and it eventually came under the editorship of Morton McMichael, Esq., where it still remains, under the name of "The North American and United States Gazette." Mr. Dunlap was printer

to the Convention which met at Philadelphia before the Revolution, and also to Congress, and in that capacity had the honor of publishing the Declaration of Independence; to the principles and doctrines of which his paper, his purse, and his personal effort, civilly and in action, were dedicated. Before the war of the Revolution, he was one of the members of the First Troop of Philadelphia cavalry, and served with distinction, first as cornet, and afterwards as lieutenant, during the "time which tried men's souls." He was with the troop in all their engagements. This troop, at Trenton and Princeton, was the body-guard of General Washington, and were steady and faithful to the "father of his country" in all the vicissitudes of her struggle. After the battle of Trenton, in order to reconnoitre the position of the enemy, and to obtain such information as was required before the further movement of our victorious army upon the enemy, then at Princeton, six members of the First Troop were detailed for this hazardous service. They were John Dunlap, James Hunter, Thomas Peters, William Pollard, and James and Samuel Caldwell, under the command of the first named. How this duty was performed is well described by one of the actors of this period of the war: "We met with little success in our way, or in the immediate vicinity of Princeton, to which we had approached within three miles. The ravages of the enemy had struck such terror, that no rewards could tempt the inhabitants, though otherwise well disposed, to go to Princeton on this errand. But it being fully resolved not to return while there was a chance of success, it was concluded to pass on and even to go around Princeton, expecting in the rear they would be less guarded. As we were passing slowly on, almost within view of the town, a British soldier was observed passing from a barn to a dwelling-house without arms. He being supposed to be a marauder, two of our party were sent to bring him in. But they had scarcely set out before another was seen, and then a third, when orders were given for our whole party to charge. This was done, and the house surrounded. Twelve British soldiers equipped as dragoons, and well armed, their pieces loaded, and having the advantage of the house, surrendered. Besides these, a commissary was also taken. This achievement, while it gave to Washington most important information, in some degree received his displeasure from its rash-

ness and danger, and he so expressed himself to Dunlap, in whom courage and impetuosity were more conspicuous than prudence. By this means, however, a very perfect account was obtained: that Lord Cornwallis, with a body of picked troops, and well appointed, had the day before re-enforced General Grant at Princeton, and that they were pressing wagons to begin their march the next morning to dislodge us from Trenton, their whole force being not less than from seven thousand to eight thousand men." Dunlap's account of this incident of the war is somewhat different. By his story, the barn was situated near a dense wood, which enabled him to place his comrades concealed from the view of the dragoons who were within. His men were directed by their noise to impress the inmates that their body was in great force, while he approached the place and required them to surrender. Under the delusion that the troops had surrounded them and resistance was vain, they were taken prisoners. To this First Troop of Philadelphia Cavalry, when General Washington discharged them from duty, he returned his thanks, and in these words:—

"For the many essential services which they have rendered to their country and to himself personally, during the course of that severe campaign, though composed of gentlemen of fortune; they have shown a noble example of discipline and subordination, and in several actions have shown a spirit and bravery, which will ever do honor to them, and will ever be gratefully remembered by me." The members of this troop were offered high rank in the regular army, which they declined. With the approbation of General Washington and the approval of their own breasts, they were satisfied, and then for a time, and until their services were again required, they pursued their private vocations. Some time after our independence was acknowledged, domestic and internal difficulties of the most alarming character arose in the way of the new Government, which was to extend its eagle wings over those which had passed from the political condition of separate colonies into that of independent States, subject to our great confederacy. These difficulties, those which the insurrection in Massachusetts and in Pennsylvania, and in other States, presented, are familiar to my readers, and are only referred to in illustration of the character of the times, and to present in this connection the conduct

of the subject of this notice. John Dunlap became captain of his troop about the close of the war, and although a higher military station was offered him, he preferred his post in the troop. In the campaign of 1799, which was undertaken to secure internal peace, and the efficient operation of the General Government, from which, since that time, our citizens have enjoyed prosperity and happiness, Captain Dunlap, having received notice of a general order, directing the cavalry to hold themselves in readiness to march in a few days, sent the following characteristic reply:—

“Wednesday Evening, March 27, 1799.

“SIR:

“About an hour ago, I received through you the general order of the Commander-in-Chief, dated this day, with a letter directing me to report when the First Troop of Philadelphia Cavalry will be ready to march. With pleasure I tell you, that when the laws and government of this happy country require defence, the First Troop of Philadelphia Cavalry want but one hour’s notice to march.

“I have the honor to be, with esteem,

“Your obedient, humble servant,

“JOHN DUNLAP.”

The troop joined the expedition, and Captain Dunlap, under the rank of Major, commanded, together with it, the body of cavalry which went into service from the east of the mountains. Their duty was a most painful one, for their arms were now directed against their own fellow-citizens. The successful and humane manner in which it was discharged, is fully described by William Finley, in his “History of the Insurrection of the Four Western Counties of Pennsylvania.” Upon page 202 of his History he says: “Captain Dunlap, of Philadelphia, and his company, were sent to Muddy Creek, in the upper end of Washington County. They took Colonel Crawford, Mr. Sedgwick, a justice of the peace, Mr. Corbey, and others. They were taken very early in the morning, before they had any opportunity of making any resistance. Captain Dunlap and his party, while they behaved with the greatest dexterity in taking the prisoners, treated them with as much politeness and attention as their situation would admit of, and engaged



their gratitude by accompanying unavoidable severity with humanity." These prisoners, active in the revolt, were engaged in the outrages against the civil authorities, and were of the number who rendezvoused at Braddock's. When these ringleaders were taken, the insurrection was suppressed, and the people returned to their duty. Upon page 209 of the same book the author writes: "Captain Dunlap had a discrimination made in his orders between witnesses and supposed criminals, and treated them all with humanity, and had them all comfortably lodged and provided with victuals and drink before taking refreshments himself." Having thus patriotically served his country against the oppression of Great Britain, and the domestic disturbers of the peace of their own country, he again devoted himself to the advocacy of the principles upon which the party of Washington, known as the Federal party, placed the welfare of the country. In this faith he lived, acted, and died. By his talents and industry, he acquired a large fortune. He purchased an estate in Virginia, and also 98,000 acres of land in the State of Kentucky. He owned a square of ground between Chestnut and Market and Eleventh and Twelfth Streets, which he sold to the late Stephen Girard; and also the square between Twelfth and Thirteenth Streets; and much real estate elsewhere in the city of Philadelphia. He died on the 27th of November, 1812, in the sixty-sixth year of his age, and was buried with all the honors of war. Mr. Dunlap subscribed £4000, in 1780, to supply provisions for the American army. He was a member of the Hibernia Society. John D. Bleight, Esq., his grandson, is a member of the Bar of Philadelphia.

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## PETER S. DUPONCEAU.

BY THOMAS I. WHARTON.

MR. DUPONCEAU, an eminent scholar, was a native of France,—having been born on the 3d of June, 1760, in the Isle of Rhé,—where his father had a military command; for which profession, also, the son was destined. On the death of his father, he was persuaded by his mother to enter the ecclesiastical order; but the

- young Abbé Duponceau (those who knew him only in later years will smile at this title), though he submitted to the tonsure, soon got enough of the restraints and privations of a religious life; and, in 1775, he abandoned it and repaired to Paris, where he gained a precarious subsistence by teaching and translating,—having previously made himself master of the English and Italian languages. Here he made the acquaintance of Baron Steuben, and was induced to accompany that celebrated disciplinarian to the United States, in the double capacity of his private secretary and aid-de-camp. This was in 1777. From the time of his arrival until the winter of 1779, he attended the Baron in his military operations; he then left the army. In 1781, he became a citizen of Pennsylvania; and, in the following year, was appointed secretary to Mr. Livingston, who had the Department of Foreign Affairs. The business of the office was transacted in that narrow, two-story building, which most of us remember, situate on the east side of Sixth Street, adjoining the one-story office, afterwards occupied by Mr. Duponceau for his professional business. Both of them, however, the old Revolutionary building and the more modern office, have been swept away by the progress of improvement, as it is called, which, in its irresistible march, levels everything that stands in its way; and very soon will leave nothing above ground to remind us of either the primitive or Revolutionary days of Pennsylvania.

At the close of the war, Mr. Duponceau studied the law; and not long afterwards was admitted to practice. In a letter which he did me the honor to address to me on the occasion of a memoir of Mr. Rawle, which I wrote, he says: "I married in the year 1788, and from that time I began to lead a very retired life, attending only to the duties of my profession. In the same year, the Federal Constitution was promulgated. Mr. Rawle and I took different sides. I regret to say that I belonged to what was called the Anti-Federal party; I thought I was right; subsequent events have proved that I was in the wrong."

For many years, Mr. Duponceau occupied a prominent place at the Bar of this city, and was frequently employed in the Supreme Court of the United States at Washington, whither he went with his contemporaries, Mr. Rawle, Mr. Tilghman, Mr. Ingersoll, and Mr. Dallas. In the letter I have mentioned, the style and sub-

stance of which are so agreeable that one regrets that Mr. Duponceau did not write memoirs of his times, and of the distinguished men he had met with, he thus speaks of those journeys:—

“The court sat there, as it does at present, or did until lately, in the month of February; so that we had to travel in the depth of winter, through bad roads, in the midst of rain, hail, and snow, in no very comfortable way. Nevertheless, as soon as we were out of the city, and felt the flush of air, we were like schoolboys on the playground on a holiday, and we began to kill time by all the means that our imagination could suggest. Flashes of wit shot their coruscations on all sides; puns of the genuine Philadelphia stamp were handed about; old college stories were revived; macaronic Latin was spoken with great purity, songs were sung, even classical songs, among which I recollect the famous bacchanalian of the Archdeacon of Oxford, ‘*Mihi est propositum in taberna mori*’; in short, we might have been taken for anything but the grave counsellors of the celebrated Bar of Philadelphia.”

On their return from one of these expeditions, the merriment of these venerable persons became so excessive as to upset the driver, who lost his reins; the horses ran away at a frightful rate; all but Mr. Duponceau leaped from the stage, and were more or less bruised: he kept his seat, and took snuff with mechanical regularity and characteristic abstraction. “We had,” he said in the same letter to me, “a narrow escape. I am now left alone in the stage of life, which they were doomed also to leave before me. I hope I shall meet them safe again in a better place.”

Mr. Duponceau made himself at home in this community much more thoroughly than his countrymen in general do. He mastered our language completely; and spoke and wrote it with a precision and facility that made it difficult to say that he was not “native and to the manor born.” The slightest imaginable accent revealed his French origin; but nothing betrayed his Roman Catholic education or his royalist connection. He professed a devout admiration of our political and social creeds; and manifested the utmost reverence for the founder and early lawgivers of Pennsylvania. He suggested, and took an active part in establishing the society for commemorating the landing of William Penn; which afterwards, unfortunately, died of exaggeration and collapse.

We met originally with great and appropriate simplicity in the small, low, two-story building in Letitia Court, then kept as a tavern or eating-house by a worthy Irishman of the name of Doyle, but traditionally said to have been one of the chief places of residence of the great man whose advent to this land we were met to celebrate. A circumstance occurred at the outset which was characteristic of Mr. Duponceau's absence of mind. A committee was appointed, of which he was made the chairman, to draw up a constitution and by-laws for the society. I happened to be one of the committee. After waiting some time for a summons from the chairman of the committee to retire, and enter upon the consideration of the subject referred to us, we were surprised to see him rise and taking from his pocket a manuscript of some length, announce that the committee had retired, and directed him to report them. All this had passed through his mind; and he thought it had passed through the committee. Of course we acquiesced in the report; and the constitution thus engendered was adopted by acclamation.

Mr. Duponceau's reverence for the primitive days and early inhabitants of Pennsylvania, may be seen in various parts of his writings. In his "Discourse on the Early History of Pennsylvania," delivered before the Philosophical Society, in 1821, he thus speaks:—

"Pennsylvania once realized what never existed before, except in fabled story. Not that her citizens were entirely free from the passions of human nature; for they were men, not angels; but it is certain that no country on earth ever exhibited such a scene of happiness, innocence, and peace, as was witnessed here during the first century of our social existence. I well remember them, those patriarchal times, when simple yet not inelegant manners prevailed everywhere among us; when rusticity was devoid of roughness, and polished life diffused its mild radiance around, unassuming and unenvied; when society was free from the constraint of etiquette and parade; when love was not crossed by avarice or pride; and friendships were unbroken by ambition and intrigue.

"This was the spectacle which Pennsylvania offered even in the midst of the storms of the Revolution; and which she continued to exhibit until a sudden influx of riches broke in upon the land, and brought in its train luxury, more baneful than war. *Savior armis, luxuria incubuit.* This torrent," he continues, "has been checked in

its course" (this, it will be remembered, was in 1821, twenty-six years ago); "we are gradually returning to those moderate habits, which we never should have abandoned. But we are too far advanced in population and arts ever to see our ancient manners restored in their primitive purity; all that we can do now, is to preserve their memory as a subject of pride to their descendants, and of admiration to succeeding generations through the world."

Mr. Duponceau, among his other acquirements, was a great philologist, and was deeply versed, if I may so speak, in the comparative anatomy of languages. His treatises upon the Chinese tongue display great learning and ingenuity; and, with his other writings, acquired for him a distinguished reputation abroad and at home. Full of years and literary distinction, he reached the elevated station of President of the American Philosophical Society; and, after a slow and rather painful descent down the hill of life, he died in his old-fashioned house, at the corner of Chestnut and Sixth Streets, on the first day of April, 1844, in the eighty-fourth year of his age. Among other things, he bequeathed to the Athænum, of Philadelphia, the sum of two hundred dollars.

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## ALBERT W. DUY.

BY THE REV. SAMUEL A. CLARK.

ALBERT W. DUY was born in the city of Philadelphia, April 9th, 1823. In his childhood he was remarkable for the evenness of his temper, for his keen sense of right and wrong, and for the readiness with which he imbibed knowledge. His whole deportment, when a child, was that of one born of God; and so consistent was his character, that his parents say they never knew when Albert became a Christian. Indeed, our departed brother has declared that he believed he always loved God. His infant lips often breathed out the words of prayer, and in his earliest days he commenced that walking with God for which, in after years, he was so eminent. The idea that he must become a minister of the Gospel was



one of the first which impressed his mind; and when a prattling child, often has he been found alone, imitating in his little sanctuary the public services of God's house. At the age of six years, the subject of our notice commenced the daily practice of reading the Holy Scriptures, with prayer,—a habit which, to his last hours, was maintained with conscientious fidelity. In his schoolboy days, his manners and habits were such that he endeared himself to his playmates, and was an especial favorite and confidant, we might almost say, of all his teachers. One of them writes: "It is a satisfaction to me to say, that I remember no instance in which we have had to disagree. On the contrary, I have frequently been indebted to him for assistance in the maintenance of good order, especially in my dealings with the first division; and I most cheerfully embrace the present opportunity of acknowledging my obligations."

The same principle which governed the man was manifest in the youth,—a strict adherence to what was right. Endowed with a strong memory, the acquisition of knowledge was easy to him, and frequently, after once hearing a discourse, he would repeat it, in nearly the same words in which it was delivered.

On the 23d December, 1831, he was dedicated to God, in St. Andrew's Church, Philadelphia, which was then under the pastoral care of the Rev. Dr. Bedell. Seven years after this, we find our young friend desirous to become a communicant in the church where he had been baptized; and to the questions proposed to him he gave answers, fully showing his fitness for confirmation, in writing.

In April, 1838, he was admitted to the communion in St. Andrew's Church, Philadelphia, and in the autumn of the same year he entered the University of Pennsylvania, where he was diligent in his studies, and enjoyed the confidence of the officers and the love of his fellow-students. His progress in literature and science, for an accurate knowledge of which he had a strong desire, does not appear to have hindered his growth in grace; and his journal shows, that though a college life may present strong temptations to neglect religion, still there never can be any necessity at college for the decline of vital godliness; though the course of too many youths would lead us to suppose there is.

April 8th, 1840, being the anniversary of his admission to the communion of the church, he says: "Well may I remember it with lively emotions of joy and gratitude.

"Oh, happy day, that stays my choice  
On thee, my Saviour, and my God!  
Well may this glowing heart rejoice,  
And tell thy goodness all abroad!"

"April 9th, 1840. My birthday has come again, and I am seventeen years old. What will the next seventeen years bring forth? Oh, what a question! Before that time I shall have to act for myself in the wide world."

"April 11th, 1840. To-morrow is the *Sabbath*—the *rest*—and I have a particular desire to spend it in a holy manner."

"April 15th, 1840. Yesterday afternoon I attended the communicants' meeting. Such a meeting is, I think, peculiarly proper and profitable, for certainly some preparation is needed for the holy supper."

Young Duy deeply felt the importance of thorough self-examination before coming to the communion.

In September of 1842, Mr. Duy entered the Theological Seminary of Virginia; and, while there, his intellectual powers became more and more developed daily, and, above all, his walk and conversation showed him to be rapidly growing in grace, and making attainments in spirituality. In his dissertations and debates, he was fearless and uncompromising in defence of the truth; and, after having come to a deliberate conviction on any point, he was always ready, at the proper time, firmly to maintain his position.

On the 10th of July, Mr. Duy took leave of his friends in Virginia, having graduated from the Seminary there with a high reputation, both for scholarship and piety, accompanied with many earnest wishes, and followed by fervent prayers for his success. His preparatory examinations for orders were in every way satisfactory to his examiners; and, on Sunday morning, July 13th, 1845, he was ordained.

On the afternoon of the same day, Mr. Duy preached his first sermon in St. Andrew's Church, Philadelphia, from the words: "God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord

Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world." The Sunday following, Mr. Duy preached at Cape May, where he was spending a few days with his father's family, previous to entering upon the duties of his station in Brooklyn, to which city he had been invited as assistant in St. Ann's Church.

On Monday, the 13th of April, 1846, Mr. Duy arrived at his father's house, in Philadelphia, apparently in perfect health. On Wednesday evening he preached in St. Andrew's Church; and, on Thursday, in writing to a friend, he says of his sermon, "It was rather a poor performance, except that it was the *Gospel*. Truly may we say, 'We have this *treasure* in earthen vessels.'"

In this letter, which was his last work, he makes this remark, which will serve to show how even and uneventful was his life: "Wonderful as it is, I have never been disappointed; and here I am once more, by the goodness of God, with my family, under the paternal roof." Little did he imagine, when he penned these words, that he had come home to die. And when he wrote what proved to be the close of the letter, "I think I shall suspend until to-morrow," he dreamed not that that sentence was the last he should ever write, and that all intercourse with his friends would be suspended until they should meet in another world.

On Thursday evening, Mr. Duy complained of a slight feeling of illness, and, after some simple remedies were administered, he appeared to be relieved of his pain, and slept a little through the night; but, on Friday morning, his disease assumed a more violent form, and medical advice was obtained. On Saturday, although some anxiety was felt by the family, immediate danger was not apprehended.

On Sunday morning, April 19th, Mr. Duy's attendants perceived some change in his appearance, and he himself expressed a desire to say something, or to write, but was unable to do so, and composed himself for sleep. The family gathered around the bed, and, at half-past six o'clock, without a sigh or a groan, this devoted young minister, at the age of twenty-three years, passed away to the spirit land. He went to join the company of the redeemed. "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

## THOMAS EARLE.

THOMAS EARLE was born in Leicester, Massachusetts, 21st of April, 1796. His parents were members of the Society of Friends, and he was educated by them in the strictest tenets of that sect. His paternal ancestors emigrated from England in the year 1640. One of these was a friend of William Penn, by whom he was held in such high esteem for his probity and good sense, that Penn was wont to say, "When I build a house, Ralph Earle's name shall be upon it."

Mr. Earle's father and paternal uncles were well known in New England for many years as manufacturers of hand and machine cards; and, in boyhood, he worked at this trade. He also attended the grammar school of the district, until of a suitable age, when he was placed in the Academy at Leicester,—one of the best and most flourishing institutions of the State,—and which has the honor of reckoning among its graduates some of the most distinguished men of Massachusetts.

His early love of literary pursuits was encouraged and fostered by his parents, who both possessed uncommon intelligence and mental cultivation, his mother, among other intellectual endowments, possessing the rare faculty of poetic improvisation.

He was remarkable, when very young, for thoughtfulness and sobriety of demeanor,—taking so little interest in the sports and amusements of those of his own age, that it was afterwards remarked of him, "He never was a boy."

At this early age, he added to an inquiring mind, and ardent love of truth, great reasoning and argumentative powers, which, being united to an uncommon command of temper, rendered him almost irresistible in debate, so that few could long withstand his forcible reasoning; and those who then, as in after life, brought to the combat long-indulged opinions, and dearly-cherished prejudices, were compelled to abandon them, and to yield to his superior powers.

His parents and near relatives all were attached to what was

then called the Federal party in politics; and he, in boyhood, was a fierce and uncompromising pupil of that school; but his maturer and more enlightened views led him to reject those doctrines, and to embrace what he considered the pure *democracy of Christianity*, which he advocated faithfully and fearlessly to the end of his life.

On quitting Leicester Academy, he removed, at the age of twenty-one, to the city of Philadelphia, where he embraced the commercial business; and, having married in 1820, he established himself in business permanently in that city. But he soon found the pursuits of trade uncongenial and distasteful, and, not meeting with success, he finally abandoned them; and, in 1824, he commenced the study of the law under John Sergeant, Esq.

In the course of the practice of his profession, his attention was awakened to the great defects and errors in the Constitution of the State, and the abuses existing under its administration. He witnessed, on every hand, corruption and oppression; and, believing that a necessity was laid upon him to labor for the removal of these evils, he acted upon this conviction, and suggested the call of a Convention, for the purpose of effecting such changes as would secure the well-being and the rights of the people.

With this view, he conferred with his friends of both political parties, whose views corresponded with his own. A few sympathized, and *one or two* assisted and co-operated with him; but in this, as in other contemplated reforms, he met either with lukewarmness and indifference, or open hostility. But this did not deter him from the great object to which he devoted all the energies of an energetic mind and determined will, ardent love of freedom, hatred of oppression, of partial privileges, and monopolies. He, in conjunction with Mr. Johnson, purchased the "Mechanics' Free Press," to which he added the title of "Reform Advocate." This paper was ably conducted, and was devoted to the cause so dear to him; and, after years of patient and anxious toil, he so far succeeded in arousing the citizens of the State to the necessity of a change, that a Convention, for the purpose of a reform in the Constitution, was called in the year 1836.

The Convention met first at Harrisburg, and Mr. Earle was elected a delegate from the county of Philadelphia. It afterwards removed to the city of Philadelphia, and sat in the Musical Fund



Hall. The results of its deliberations, and the beneficial changes it accomplished, belong to history, and may be found in the published debates.

Mr. Earle was pleasantly called by his coadjutors, "the father of the Convention," and was one of its most active and industrious members. The principles which he advocated in its debates were consistently democratic. Neither friendship nor favor, either here or elsewhere, ever causing him to swerve from his established convictions of justice and truth.

It may seem surprising to the careless observer of life and nature—of men and things—to one unaccustomed to notice, from what comparatively small causes great events are produced, that a poor Yankee youth, without powerful friends, or influential political position, should have succeeded in accomplishing, in so short a period, a revolution in the great State of Pennsylvania,—overthrowing its Constitution, and establishing, upon a more democratic basis, the present one, whose beneficial changes are universally acknowledged.

But the toils, the anxieties, the personal sacrifices, necessary for the bringing about so great an end, can never be known but by those who mingled with him in daily life, and who witnessed his untiring devotion, and his complete self-sacrifice.

The Convention sat in the Musical Fund Hall, and, after its sittings were concluded, and the amendments were submitted to a vote of the people for its acceptance or rejection, the returns at first were favorable, but subsequently were less so from the more remote counties, and his friends trembled for the results. One of his children asked him, if the amendments were rejected, what he would do? supposing he would give up in despair; but his answer was, "We will try it again."

That so ardent a lover of liberty should be led early in life to view with grief the oppression existing in our own beloved country, will not be considered matter of surprise. He joined in 1821-2, the "Pennsylvania Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery, and the Relief of Free Negroes unlawfully held in Bondage," which society enrolled among its earliest members Franklin and Rush. As one of its counsellors, he labored zealously and faithfully till near his decease, and except in one instance, without pecuniary

compensation. His was a consistent democracy, and he toiled long and ardently both with tongue and pen for the extinction of American slavery.

In the Anti-Slavery field he supported the doctrine of compensation to the slave-owners, or purchase of the slaves by the Government, as has been the case in all countries where slavery has been peacefully abolished. His plan was to effect an alteration in the Constitution of the United States, so as to enable the General Government to abolish slavery through compensation to the slave-holders by a sale of the public lands. For this purpose, he had printed and circulated petitions to Congress directed to postmasters in many parts of this Union, not neglecting the circulation of them at home, continuing, as long as he lived, to forward them annually to Congress. He considered petitioning—though toilsome and wearisome to those immediately engaged—one of the most important instrumentalities in the abolition of slavery, and often and earnestly urged its importance upon his more indolent and less hopeful coadjutors. A little before his decease, he had printed petitions to Congress for the abolition of slavery, through compensation to the slave-holders, ready for every post-office in every State in the Union, which his death prevented from being forwarded as directed.

His views on this subject have been united with by many who have taken little interest in the actions of such as differed with him on this point, or who have openly opposed them. He remarked that this was the only just and equitable measure which could be adopted for the extinction of American Slavery; satisfying, if accomplished, all parties, the slave, the slave-owner, and the people generally.

To some who considered the measure impracticable, he would answer: "The way is ever open to the honest intention and determined will."

One of his earliest literary efforts, while a member of the Law Academy, was an "Essay on Penal Law," which was considered so good that it was published by the Academy.

He next published an "Essay on Railroads," which is held in high esteem by those conversant in such matters. These were published *after* the pamphlet on the "Right to Alter Charters."

A small pamphlet on the "Rights of States to Alter Charters," he published in 1823, a copy of which he sent to Thomas Jefferson, from whom he received the following characteristic reply, which has never before been published:—

"MONTICELLO, September 24th, 1823.

"SIR: Your letter of August 28th, with the pamphlet accompanying it, was not received until the 18th instant. That our Creator made the earth for the use of the living, and not of the dead; that those who exist not, can have no use nor rights in it, no authority or power over it; that one generation of men cannot foreclose or burthen its use to another, which comes to it in its own right, and by the same Divine beneficence; that a preceding generation cannot bind a succeeding one; by its laws or contracts, these deriving their obligation from the will of the existing majority, and that majority being removed by death, another comes in its place, with a will equally free to make its own laws and contracts: these are axioms so self-evident that no explanation can make them plainer; for he is not to be reasoned with who says that non-existence can control existence, or that nothing can move something. They are axioms also pregnant with salutary consequences. The laws of civil society, indeed, for the encouragement of industry, give the property of the parent to his family on his death; and in most civilized countries permit him even to give it, by testament, to whom he pleases. And it is also found more convenient to suffer the laws to stand on our implied assent, as if positively re-enacted, until the existing majority positively repeals them; but this does not lessen the right of that majority to repeal, whenever a change of circumstances or of will calls for it; habit alone confounds civil practice with natural right. \* \* \* \* \*

"With my thanks for the pamphlet, be pleased to accept the assurance of my great respect.

"THOMAS JEFFERSON."

The surviving relatives of the late Benjamin Lundy—the pioneer in the cause of African emancipation—were desirous that Mr. Earle should prepare a memoir of that distinguished philanthropist, and he complied with their wishes, though at the time feeble in health,

and feeling inadequate to do justice to the self-denying labors of the man who awoke the American people from their lethargy, and aroused them to the necessity of doing something for the oppressed bondman. It is true that there had occasionally sounded a note of expostulation and warning from devoted men like Lay, Benezet, and Woolman, but Lundy was the first to give himself, heart and soul, life and limb, to this cause; yielding to it the delights of home and kindred; toiling alone and unaided, in sickness and sorrow, through the southern part of our country, through the Mexican dominions, and in all places where he thought he could be useful. By his writings and personal efforts, Anti-Slavery Societies were established in one or more of our Southern States. By his mild and persuasive efforts, he had convinced many; and his labors in this cause were uninterrupted till his gentle and patient spirit was summoned hence.

This memoir, though lacking in the interest which he might have given it had he been in better health, is still an able and impartial history, not only of the career of this good man, but of the Anti-Slavery cause in the United States, and therefore valuable not only to those who have an especial interest in this movement, but to the future historian of the country.

The last two or three years of his life were devoted almost exclusively to literary pursuits. All his time not engrossed with professional pursuits he devoted to the preparation of a "Grammatical Dictionary of the French and the English Language."

He felt the most intense interest in philological research; and the amount of knowledge he gained by years of close and patient study was remarkable. His knowledge of the French, German, Spanish, and Italian languages was all acquired while he was engaged in the practice of an arduous profession, and after he was forty years of age. He would remark, when I have finished this dictionary, I intend to prepare one of other languages. When urged to cease from these exertions which it was feared were injuring his health, he would reply: "Don't ask me to do it; I am lightening the labors of thousands, who will be grateful when I am gone." His last literary relaxation, commenced shortly before the fatal attack of his disease, was a translation of Sismondi's "Italian Republics" into English.

It cannot, therefore, be matter of surprise that he who was said to have lived not the full life of one man, but who had performed the labor of three, should have exhausted the energies and undermined the foundations of life prematurely, and that he should have been removed from active usefulness at the age of fifty-two years, when from a naturally excellent constitution and the most careful and temperate habits of life, he might have confidently reckoned on attaining old age.

Early in the spring of 1849, he complained of a pain under the left shoulder-blade, and, a swelling soon after appearing, was called, by his physician, lumbar abscess. He had been feeble and complaining for some weeks, and had been afflicted with a severe cough.

It was hoped that he might survive this attack; and all means which affection and love could dictate were resorted to, but all was useless. He continued to decline daily; and, on the 14th July, 1849, he quietly breathed his last at the residence of his friend, Charles Walton, at Willow Grove.

"When hearts, whose truth was proven,  
Like thine, are laid in earth,  
There should a wreath be woven,  
To show the world their worth."

The simple stone, at the Woodlands Cemetery, tells that Thomas Earle reposes there; but it is only the mortal part. His excellent example, and the memory of his virtues, survive in eternal freshness. The poor and afflicted man, who came to him for counsel and assistance, when all other means had failed, and the name of these is legion; the laboring colored man, and the slave, whose cause he made his own,—all these should assist in "weaving" the "wreath;" but it is exclusively the work of those who knew him most intimately, and loved him best, "to show the world his worth." His daily lessons to his family of brotherly kindness and love, of unselfishness, forgiveness of injury, of kindness to the poor and afflicted, of patient consideration for domestics, of industry, of economy, of strict justice to all men,—these will never be forgotten, and will form an enduring, an imperishable wreath.



## JOSEPH EASTBURN.

JOSEPH EASTBURN, a preacher to seamen in Philadelphia, died January 30th, 1828, aged seventy-nine years. Many thousands attended his funeral. His coffin was carried by twelve sailors. At the grave, Dr. Green delivered an address. "When he began to preach to seamen, about the year 1820, we procured," he said, "a sail-loft, and, on the Sabbath, hung out a flag. As the sailors came by, they hailed us, 'Ship ahoy!' We answered them. They asked us, 'Where we were bound?' We told them to the port of New Jerusalem; and that they would do well to go in the fleet. 'Well,' said they, 'we will come in and hear your terms.'" This was the beginning of the Mariners' Church. Mr. Eastburn was a good man, eminently pious, and devoted to this work and his Divine Master.

His father, Robert Eastburn, came from England when quite young. He was of a strict Quaker family, and continued for some time in that connection, and was married in their public meeting in their way. His mother belonged to the same denomination, and continued in their Society until Mr. George Whitfield first came to America.

The subject of this notice was born on the 11th of August, 1748, in Philadelphia. His parents could afford him only a common English education; and, at fourteen years of age, he was put apprentice to the cabinet-makers' business.

On the 14th May, 1805, he was authorized, by the Presbytery of Philadelphia, to explain and discourse on the Sacred Scriptures, and to catechize and exhort in the jail, almshouse, and hospital, in the city of Philadelphia.

## DAVID EDWIN.

THIS eminent engraver was not a native of Philadelphia, nor even of the United States; but the important service he rendered to the art of this country, particularly in that department in which he was a proficient, entitles him to a niche in a temple consecrated to distinguished men of Philadelphia, in which city he resided more than two-thirds of his life.

He was born at the city of Bath, England, in December of the memorable year 1776. His father was John Edwin, the celebrated comic actor, and whose mimic powers were largely inherited by the son. Displaying a marked talent for the arts of delineation, the youth was sufficiently cared for by his not over-affectionate parent, to be placed with a Hollander, then temporarily sojourning in England, to learn that branch of engraving technically called stippling. Before the expiration of the term of his apprenticeship, Mynheer Jossi, his instructor, returned to Amsterdam, taking Edwin with him. The latter disliked the place and disagreed with his instructor, and, determining on immediate emancipation, engaged himself in the capacity of man-before-the-mast, to assist in sailing an American ship, then lying in the harbor, to Philadelphia, her port of destination. This was the only mode of escape open to him, for he had neither money or friends, and intercourse with England was, just at that time, almost entirely cut off. He arrived in Philadelphia in December, 1797, when he was exactly twenty-one years of age.

That was an early day in the history of the art of engraving in the city, and to obtain employment was by no means the only difficulty our young artist found he had to encounter. To obtain the necessary materials with which to work was an obstacle almost insurmountable in the then dearth of skilful or experienced mechanics. To any one acquainted with the facilities that now exist for procuring tools, plates, and everything requisite, it is hard to conceive the forlorn condition of David Edwin for lack of them at the time of which we speak. And when he had contrived, by hook

or by crook, and the exercise of much ingenuity, to remove this first trouble, there remained yet another, in the rude and imperfect manner in which the copperplate printer performed his part. This last was never in his day overcome, and it compelled him to change totally his style and mode of working, in order to adapt his plate to the kind of usage they must necessarily undergo at the hands of the printer.

His first employment in Philadelphia was in his seaman's capacity and seaman's costume, to carry on his shoulder the ship's letter bag, following the footsteps of the captain, to the United States post-office. His second was to engrave a title-page for a selection of Scotch airs, which had been made by Mr. Benjamin Carr, and was about to be published by Mr. T. B. Freeman. This latter gentleman proved a "friend in need" to Edwin, both at the beginning and the end of his career.

He soon found employment as an assistant to Edward Savage, who painted pictures, engraved plates from them, then printed them himself, and was, moreover, his own publisher. One of these works is still well known, comprising a group of General Washington, Martha Washington, George Washington Parke Custis, Eleanor Custis, and their negro man, William Lee. The background is a view along the Potomac, and on the table is a map indicating a plan of the then contemplated city of Washington. These portraits were really from life, and the plate was in a great degree the work of Edwin, although bearing the name of Savage as the engraver. While this work was in progress, the yellow fever frightened the artist and assistants away from Philadelphia, and their "city of refuge" was Burlington, New Jersey. Edwin would tell an amusing story of their voyage up the Delaware in a row-boat, carrying the Washington painting along without taking the canvas off from its stretching-frame. It was held upright, and the nicety of skill requisite to keep it exactly edgewise to the wind, and the pompous and solemn manner of Savage in directing the manœuvres, were described with a quiet humor and vivid distinctness that made it irresistibly comic and laughable.

After three or four years' residence, he made the acquaintance of Gilbert Stuart, the eminent portrait painter, through having been employed to engrave from his picture of Dr. Smith, of the Penn-

sylvania University. This led to results the most important, for so entirely did Edwin's prints satisfy the accurate and fastidious taste of that eminent painter, that, whenever he could interfere with effect, he would always prevent his pictures from being copied by any other engraver. It is obvious what must have been the effect on Edwin's reputation from such marked approbation from so distinguished and critical an artist. The occurrence at the commission above referred to being given, he thus described: "The Doctor was old, hasty, and irritable. He began in a broad Scotch dialect to ask me if I could draw. But when we came to the price of the plate, I thought the poor Doctor would have gone distracted. He ran out and in the room, throwing at me angry and reproachful glances; and ended by determining to pay me only half of my demand, which I accepted, considering the connection I should form with Mr. Stuart by undertaking the work, of more value to me than any sum the Doctor could pay me for the plate." Those who may have seen impressions from this admirable engraving will not be surprised at the strong hold it procured him on the goodwill of the painter.

From this time forward, he was mostly well employed, as his increasing reputation secured for him nearly all the portrait engraving that was done in the United States. His industry was untiring, and at length such close application began to show in its effects on his health. By advice of his physician he kept a saddle-horse, and thus obtained the benefit of air and exercise, but the pressure of his business engagements induced him to recover from the night the hours thus lost from the day. This practice of working far into the night, poring over the lurid glare of the red polished copper-plate, and by the imperfect light of the dim oil lamps then in use, on work so minute as to demand the aid of a powerful magnifying glass, soon spoiled his eyes. Not only his sight suffered—that of one eye being lost to him entirely—but his general health gave way, and he became quite unable to continue the practice of his profession.

He broke down after a career of but little over twenty years. During this time he ought to have accumulated property, but he was of a liberal disposition, and besides this, he frequently lost considerable sums. At the period of the Embargo, and subsequent war

with England, he suffered severely in this way, and when health was lost, all was lost. After he was sufficiently restored (his health, but not his sight), his first friend in Philadelphia, Mr. T. B. Freeman, who as a publisher had employed him to engrave, resumed his kindly offices, and as an auctioneer employed him as an assistant in his store. At another time he was engaged as an assistant to Mr. Warren in his office of treasurer at the Chestnut Street Theatre; and to add to the variety of occupations in which he successively engaged, he kept a grocery store in Tenth Street above Spruce.

Throughout this period he would occasionally employ his leisure hours at engraving, but owing to his impaired vision, he was fearful of prolonging these efforts to a dangerous length. It was not often that he could secure commissions to be executed with the necessary degree of dilatoriness, so that his small income received very slight augmentation from this source. The last piece of engraving he ever did was about 1829-30, and was the portrait of Gilbert Stuart, his long and fast friend. It was an order from Mr. John Neagle, and copied from that eminent artist's admirable picture from life of the veteran painter. Although this work was full of spirit and character, it was somewhat harsh and unfinished in the mere mechanical manipulation, and, in consequence, Mr. Thomas Kelly was employed to soften the tints and mellow the tones. At this retouching of his work by another hand, Edwin was greatly irritated; and thus his final effort in an art he had practised so long, and, as to skill, literally without a rival, began with the utmost interest, ended in mortification. He never touched the engraver's tools again.

His narrowed circumstances were the less severely felt, that his family consisted of no more than his wife and himself. Fortunately, too, his mind was not of a desponding nature; on the contrary, it was seldom that he was not ready, on suitable occasions, with some humorous anecdote to supply the means of pleasurable amusement. His perception of the ludicrous or grotesque was remarkably keen, and he possessed uncommon ability in relating things of the kind, especially when his fine faculty of mimicry and imitation were enlisted. His manner was never other than subdued and unobtrusive, and he had a quaint quiet way of telling a story, but the



attention of all present would be invariably fixed admiringly as he proceeded. On these occasions, his gesture would be slight, but full of characteristic expression ; and his eye beaming with humor, while he would reproduce the tone of voice, mode of utterance, and all the style and manner of the individual he might be describing ; showing clearly that he inherited to the full, all the dramatic talent that made his father famous.

He possessed, also, a refined and cultivated taste for music ; and the degree of skill he attained as a performer on the piano was more than respectable. This made him a welcome member of a small circle of amateurs, who, though moving in what was considered the upper circle of Philadelphia society, still, in their love of the art, did not consider it at all derogatory to their dignity, to aid occasionally in certain choice performances at the Chestnut Street Theatre, by adding force and volume to the orchestra through their individual instrumental amateur contributions.

No engraver in this country ever imparted to his prints more faithfully the peculiarities of manner belonging to the artist whose pictures he copied, and, in Stuart's time, he was the only one who could reproduce the marked character and spirit of that painter's delineations. This was what secured him such eminent success during his brief career, and commanded the potent influence in his favor of that distinguished portrait-painter. The style he practised is what is technically termed stipple engraving, which is composed of dots ; but his plates were never done justice to in the printing, because in his time there was no such thing as tolerable printing done.

In the year 1835, the principal artists of Philadelphia united to form an association, which obtained an act of incorporation under the title of the "Artists' Fund Society of Philadelphia." In the establishment of it Edwin took much interest, and lent his efficient co-operation. He was elected its first treasurer, and continued to hold that office till his death. Just at this time, his circumstances received a sudden improvement through a bequest from Mrs. Francis, of a dwelling-house and some money invested in stocks. This lady was a member of the profession of which Edwin's father had been so brilliant an ornament. She had long known both Mr. and Mrs. Edwin, but the judicious direction which she gave to her little

property was very much influenced by the ever thoughtful kindness of Mr. Thomas Sully, the eminent painter, who advised it. It was also by this gentleman and his family that the chief attentions and comforting solicitude were shown during the last hours of the invalid artist. He died on Washington's birthday, in the year 1841, and was therefore in the sixty-fifth year of his age, and was buried in Ronaldson's Cemetery.

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### REV. DR. MICHAEL EGAN.

REV. DR. EGAN was the first Roman Catholic Bishop of Philadelphia. He died in Philadelphia, July 22d, 1814, in the fifty-third year of his age. He was greatly respected and regretted. His remains were laid out in state for several days and nights at the Roman Catholic Church in Willing's Alley before they were interred. He was consecrated Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church of Philadelphia by the Most Rev. Archbishop, Dr. John Carroll, October 28th, 1810.

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### SAMUEL EMLLEN, M.D.

BY DR. MEIGS.

DR. EMLLEN was born in Chester County, State of Pennsylvania, March 6th, 1789. As springing from one of the oldest and most respectable families of Friends, he received, of course, in his early education, all the advantages which their strict example and sedulous inculcation of good morals could bestow. His education was chiefly English, but, as it was carefully superintended, he laid in it a solid foundation of knowledge, on which he afterwards erected a considerable structure of various and available information.

Dr. Emlen's acquirements were more solid than specious, and

produced in him those excellent fruits which have caused his death to be so much regretted.

In the year 1808, having resolved to devote himself to the profession of medicine, he placed himself, as a house-pupil, with Dr. Parrish, of this city; and, under his roof, and with his example constantly before him, made rapid progress in his studies; to which, by the testimony of his teacher, he absolutely devoted himself.

Under the roof of Dr. Parrish, and as a member of his family, Dr. Emlen passed four years; during which, having attended the lectures delivered in the University by the Professors, Rush, Wistar, Barton, Physick, James, and Coxe, he graduated M. D.; and, in June, 1812, embarked at New York for England.

Arrived at London, in July, he placed himself in the vicinity of one of the great hospitals, where he sedulously endeavored to acquire the greatest amount of practical and surgical knowledge. Attendance on hospital practice, or lectures by the celebrated individuals whose reputation had attracted him thither; conversation with celebrated men, to the houses of many of whom he had free and familiar access; and visits to objects which interest the man of science, or the philanthropist, kept his mind on the stretch; and he accumulated a large stock of information, of which he noted down the heads in his journal, which we have perused with great satisfaction, as affording evidence of the diligence with which he employed himself even at that period.

The declaration of war by the United States against Great Britain, which reached London soon after his arrival, placed no obstacles in the way of his studies while in the metropolis. The detention it occasioned gave him an opportunity, however, of making an extensive tour through England, Ireland, and Scotland; the history of which is detailed with considerable *nuïveté* in his journal. At length the obstacles to his visit to Paris were removed; and, after a residence of fourteen months in the island, he reached that city about the time of the Emperor's return from Leipzig.

His stay in London, and his frequent access to the society of the most eminent physicians, surgeons, and lecturers, had increased his stock of knowledge; while the elegant society in which he moved,

although it never abolished the gravity of his carriage, or the serious and sententious style of his conversation, imparted, nevertheless, to his manners, that urbane cast which is far more estimable and trustworthy than the false and heartless elegance of more fashionable intercourse. They were marked by the gentleness, self-possession, and confidence, which belong to the gentleman.

In Paris, though daily attracted by the extraordinary events of that eventful period of history, Dr. Emlen continued to attend mainly to the objects of his visit. The battles fought in the vicinity filled the hospitals with soldiers suffering under every species of military accidents, which he carefully studied.

After the surrender of the French capital, he returned to London in June; from whence he proceeded to Holland, and came home in the corvette John Adams, as the bearer of despatches for the Government, after an absence of nearly two years and a half.

Soon after his arrival, he commenced the practice of physic, and was elected one of the physicians of the Philadelphia Dispensary,—an excellent school of practice, through which most of the eminent practitioners here have passed.

In 1819 he resigned this station, in consequence of increasing occupations,—soon after which he was elected to be one of the managers; and, finally, after the death of his revered friend, Dr. Griffiths, became secretary to that charity.

During the year 1819, when the yellow fever prevailed along the water-margin of the city, Dr. Emlen was Secretary to the Board of Health, and made those observations of which the fruit is to be found in his valuable paper on Yellow Fever.

As member of the Board of the Guardians of the Poor, as physician to the Magdalen Asylum, the Orphan Asylum, and the Friends' Asylum for the Insane, he established broadly and deeply the foundations of a reputation which tended daily to raise him in the public esteem.

He succeeded Dr. Griffiths as Secretary to the College of Physicians; and to his zeal is undoubtedly owing much of the renewed activity and efficiency which mark the present course of that institution.

In 1825, he was elected one of the physicians to the Pennsylvania Hospital, an office to which he was annually re-elected; a suf-

ficient proof of the assiduity and ability with which he discharged the functions of that honorable and responsible situation.

This excellent man sat not down contented with the discharge of merely his professional duties. He had acquired very solemn impressions of the magnitude of the evils which the vice of drunkenness has brought on the country; and few persons, although much attention has been given to it by some of the foremost men of the time, had accumulated more of statistic knowledge on the point than himself. In the organization of the Pennsylvania Society for Discouraging the Use of Ardent Spirits, as well as in its administration as manager, he took a very active and discreet part.

Dr. Emlen's private business occupied a very large share of his time. It had augmented rapidly during the last few years of his life; so that, with his public and private affairs, he had little leisure for visits of ceremony, or for any waste of that time, which, in his eyes, was so valuable.

In the year 1819, he married Beulah Valentine, who was, like himself, a member of the Friends' Society. In the tender relations which this union produced, he found the purest sources of happiness. To his children he bore an affection that might be called passionate. We presume to say, that the fire of parental love glowed in his breast with redoubled intenseness, perhaps because of the habitual restraint under which he was accustomed to hold his passions. How lamentable must have seemed the stroke which divided him in this world from that care and watchfulness over his children, which appeared to be, for him, the best part of existence! Nevertheless, in committing his family, as he did, on his death-bed, to the providential care of his Maker, he seemed to have acquired a calmness and submission that permitted no murmuring word to escape his lips, nor allowed of one sign of impatience or wilfulness to express his unwillingness to meet that fate for which he was prepared by a blameless life.

He was daily rising in solid reputation, and in the general estimation of his fellow-citizens, when he fell a victim to an attack of remittent fever, on the 17th April, 1828, in the 39th year of his age.



## NATHANIEL EVANS.

MR. EVANS was born in Philadelphia, June 8th, 1742. He was educated at the Academy of that city, and then apprenticed to a merchant. At the expiration of his indentures he entered the college, which had in the mean time been established. At the commencement in 1765, he received the degree of Master of Arts, although he had not taken that of Bachelor, in consequence of the interruption in his studies. He immediately after left for England, for the purpose of being ordained, and returned in December of the same year, having passed a highly successful examination as one of the missionaries of the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and was stationed in Gloucester County, New Jersey, where he remained, occupied with the duties of his profession, until his death, October 29th, 1767.

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## OLIVER EVANS.

OLIVER EVANS, a mechanic, was a descendant of Evan Evans, D.D., the *first* Episcopal minister of Philadelphia, who died in 1728. He made various improvements in the arts. His iron foundry, steam factory, and steam mill, were located at Philadelphia. He died at New York, April 15th, 1819, aged sixty-four years. He published "The Young Engineer's Guide," 1805; "Millers' and Millwrights' Guide," 25 plates, 1807; first edition, 1795. The last work was patronized by George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Edmund Randolph, and Robert Morris, and their names appear in the list of subscribers to it.

Much of our steam invention we owe to our own citizen, Oliver Evans. He even understood the application of it to wagons. As early as 1787, the Legislature of Maryland granted him its exclusive use for fourteen years; and, in 1781, he publicly stated he

could drive wagons, mills, &c. Finally, he published his bet of three thousand dollars, engaging "to make a carriage to run upon a level road against the swiftest horse to be found."

Mr. Evans, although a blacksmith by trade, certainly *foresaw* the power which could be made effective from the use of steam; but, when he made his assertions, the public would not credit his report, and many actually believed that it was the ravings of an over-excited mind. None gave him any credence; not even the Legislatures of Pennsylvania and Maryland, to which he applied for countenance and support, gave him any patronage, and he died neglected and poor! Latrobe, as a man of science, pronounced the idea chimerical. But what Mr. Evans then so confidently asserted is now matter of true history. We give his *published* declarations, to wit:—

"The time will come when people will travel in stages, moved by steam-engines, at fifteen miles an hour!

"A carriage will leave Washington in the morning, breakfast at Baltimore, and sup at New York *on the same day!*

"*Railways* will be laid, of wood or iron, or on smooth paths of broken stone or gravel, to travel as well by night as day.

"A steam-engine will drive a carriage one hundred and eighty miles in twelve hours; or engines will drive boats ten or twelve miles an hour; and hundreds of boats will run upon the *Mississippi* and other waters, *as prophesied thirty years ago*; but the velocity of boats can never be made to equal those of carriages upon *rails*, because the resistance in water is eight hundred times more than in air.

"Posterity will not be able to discover why the Legislature or Congress did not grant *the inventor* such protection as might have enabled him to *put in operation* these great *improvements* sooner, he having asked neither money nor monopoly of *any existing things*.

"OLIVER EVANS."

Mr. Evans was first induced to notice the powerful expansion of *vapor* by applying his heated iron with a hammer-stroke to the spittle he could cast upon his anvil; and also by heating the butt-end of a musket-barrel in his fire, filled with confined water. He had thought of all these things in embryo as early as the period of the Revolution, and yet he and his suggestions passed for years

unpatronized! Such is the too frequent fate of new and important improvements. It is, in general, for more fortunate men, in after years, to reap the harvest of such minds as Evans, Fitch, and Fulton.

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## JOHN EWING, D.D.

JOHN EWING, D.D., a minister in Philadelphia, and Provost of the College in that city, graduated at Princeton College in 1752, and afterwards accepted the appointment of tutor. He pursued his theological studies under the direction of Dr. Allison; and, at the age of twenty-six, was employed as the instructor of the classes in philosophy at the College of Philadelphia, during the absence of Dr. Smith, who was then Provost. In 1758, he accepted the unanimous call from the First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, in which he continued his ministration until his death. In 1779, he was elected Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, and died in 1802, aged seventy years. He published a few sermons and several communications in the "Transactions of the American Philosophical Society." His "Lectures on Natural Philosophy" were published in 1809. He was esteemed and beloved as one of the best men of his day.

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## SAMUEL EWING.

BY THOMAS I. WHARTON.

MR. EWING, who became the third Vice-President of the Athenæum of Philadelphia, was the son of Dr. Ewing, some time Provost of the University, at which institution he received a liberal education, which he improved by very extensive reading. He became a member of the legal profession, and attained considerable success and distinction, without ceasing to bestow a portion of his time in the cultivation of the garden of letters. Mr. Ewing was

a contemporary, and a literary associate and friend of Dennie, the editor of the *Portfolio*, to whose memory he was warmly attached ; and one of that company of men of wit and accomplishments, whom Moore, the poet, describes in his beautiful verses as “ the sacred few, whom late by Delaware’s green banks I knew.” He became, afterwards, the editor of a magazine, composed principally of republications from English reviews and other periodicals. Mr. Ewing was remarkable, during his whole life, for the kindness of his friendship, his social disposition, and conversational powers. He would have been a welcome member of those literary clubs in which wits and writers of London have delighted to congregate. Mr. Ewing died in the month of February, 1825, after a lingering illness, having lived just long enough to hear of and rejoice in the election of his old friend and literary companion, Mr. John Quincy Adams, to the office of President of the United States.

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### GIDEON FAIRMAN.

GIDEON FAIRMAN—a captain, and then a colonel, in the war of 1812, of militia, and volunteers—was born at Newtown, Fairfield County, Connecticut, June 26th, 1774. At an early age he exhibited an extraordinary mechanical ingenuity and taste for the fine arts. He placed himself as an apprentice to Isaac Crane, a mechanic in New Mitford, a few miles distant from Newtown. Shortly after he came to the town, an English engraver by the name of Brunton, to whom some specimens of Fairman’s genius had been shown, pronounced his performances astonishing, and advised his father to encourage the youth in a pursuit in which he bade so fair to distinguish himself. After residing a short time at New Mitford with his family, he determined to leave a place where he could obtain no instruction in the art of engraving. He therefore started on foot with eighteen cents in his pocket, and walked to Hudson, on the North River. From thence he found means to reach Albany, where he bound himself apprentice to Messrs. Isaac and George Hutton, jewellers and engravers. At the age of

twenty-one he commenced business for himself, winning the good opinion of all by a natural grace of manner, joined to great intelligence and a fine person.

In 1798, he married. In 1810, he came to this city, where a company of bank-note engravers was formed under the firm-title of Murray, Draper, Fairman & Co., who commenced business in Sansom Street above Eighth Street. In the year 1819, he was induced to enter into another partnership with Mr. Jacob Perkins, and he accompanied the latter to England, where he resided three years. Not long after commencing business in England, they took into partnership the celebrated engraver, Charles Heath. Mr. Fairman died on the 18th of April, 1827. He was, to the last, a man of uncommon physical powers, beauty of person, and elegance of deportment. He and the late George Murray contributed more than any other persons to elevate the beautiful art of engraving in this country.

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## WILLIAM FISHBOURNE.

WILLIAM FISHBOURNE was Mayor of Philadelphia during the years 1719, '20, and '21, and was at one time Treasurer of the Colony. He was a native of this city, a Friend, and a resident of many years. In 1739, he was induced to write a narrative of events concerning Philadelphia, and the settlement of the State to that time, in nine folio pages of cap paper. In this narrative he says, "Penn established a friendly correspondence by way of treaty with the Indians, at least twice a year." He says, also, "Thus Providence caused the country to flourish, and to increase in wealth, to the admiration of all people, the soil being fruitful and the people industrious. For many years there subsisted a good concord and benevolent disposition among the people of all denominations, each delighting to be reciprocally helpful and kind in acts of friendship for one another." In 1723, he was one of the aldermen who was requested to employ persons immediately for the opening of the High Street to the New Ferry.



## MIERS FISHER.

BY REDWOOD FISHER.

MIERS FISHER, third son of Joshua Fisher, merchant, was born in Philadelphia in June, 1748. He studied law with Benjamin Chew, Esq., afterwards Chief Justice of the State of Pennsylvania.

As a student Mr. Fisher was very assiduous, and becoming much attached to the legal profession, for which he was well qualified by a liberal classical education and an extraordinarily retentive memory, he rose to distinguished eminence at the Bar, being esteemed one of its most able and learned members.

As a proof of this, the following extract is taken from the second volume of the "Life of President John Adams," at page 369, being part of his account of a visit to Philadelphia, noticing his having dined at the house of Miers Fisher, a young Quaker lawyer, at that time in his twenty-sixth year:—

"September 7th, 1774. Dined with Miers Fisher, a young Quaker and a lawyer. We saw his library, which is clever. But this plain Friend, and his plain, though pretty wife, with her *thees* and her *thous*, had provided us the most costly entertainment.

"We had a large collection of lawyers. Mr. Andrew Allen, the Prothonotary, a Mr. Morris, the Attorney-General, Mr. McKean, Mr. Reed, and Mr. Rodney, and besides these, Governor Hopkins and Governor Ward. We had much conversation upon the practice of the law in the different provinces. But at last we got swallowed up in politics and the great question of Parliamentary jurisdiction. Mr. Allen asks me, 'From whence do you derive your law? How do you entitle yourselves to English privileges? Is not Lord Mansfield on the side of power?'"

Mr. Fisher was a member of the City Council from 1789 to 1791. In the latter year he became a member of the House of Representatives of this State, and was also for many years a Director of the Bank of North America and of the Insurance Company of Pennsylvania.

He took a deep interest in everything relating to the jurisprudence of his native State, and several of the important laws connected with the well ordering the affairs of the city, at the early period from 1789 to 1791, while Mr. Fisher was a member of the Common Council, originated with him, among which was that of numbering the houses, arranging all the odd and even numbers on opposite sides of the street for the more easy access to them; also, the ordinance requiring all sleighs to be furnished with bells on the harness, to prevent accidents.

In the fall of 1791, as a member of the House of Representatives of the State, he took a very active part. Previously, however, he was prominently influential in procuring the passage of an Act for the gradual abolition of slavery, passed on the 1st of March, 1780, and subsequently of an Act for the better preventing of crime, and for abolishing the punishment of death in certain cases, passed the 22d of April, 1794.

The journal of the House of Representatives for the years 1791, 1792, shows the following Acts reported by him as chairman of the several committees to whom they were referred, or read by him in his place on his individual responsibility, all of which became laws of this State.

December 27, 1791. Miers Fisher read in his place a bill to prevent the sale of lottery tickets. Approved January 17, 1792.

February 18, 1792. Miers Fisher, Chairman of the Committee, reported a bill to make a Turnpike Road to Lancaster. Approved April 9, 1792.

February 28, 1792. Miers Fisher, appointed to report a bill to build a house in the City of Philadelphia, to be offered as a residence for President Washington. Bill reported and approved, in March.

March 1. Miers Fisher, chairman, reported a bill to unite the Philadelphia and Loganian Libraries. Approved in April.

March 13. Miers Fisher, chairman of committee, reported a bill to give to the Pennsylvania Hospital fifteen thousand pounds, —five thousand each year, for three years. Approved in April.

March 16. Miers Fisher read in his place a bill, entitled An Act for the Promotion of Agriculture and Manufactures. Approved in May.

March 20. Miers Fisher, chairman of committee, reported a bill to promote useful knowledge, and for the education of youth. Approved in April.

March 26. Miers Fisher read in his place a bill to make promissory notes negotiable, placing them upon the same footing as bills of exchange.

April 1. Miers Fisher read in his place a bill to prevent stock jobbing, making certain contracts illegal. Approved in April.

Mr. Fisher revised all the forms of conveyancing, and published an entire new set, deprived of a vast amount of the tautology of the English precedents, rendering the conveyance of real estate a much more simple process.

About twenty years before his death, he resigned business of all kinds, and removed to his country-seat of Ury, in Lower Dublin township, about ten miles from the city. Yet such was his attachment to the law, that he was careful to keep up his right to practice in the courts, by complying with all the existing rules, paying the requisite fees, and being careful to make an annual motion, before the court, that he might run no risk of losing his rights and privileges as a member of the Philadelphia Bar.

He was a man of great system; kept himself well informed of current events, which he recorded in his diary; employed himself much in classical literature, in looking after his farm, extensive garden, and fruit trees; and was never more happy than when receiving the visits of his numerous relatives and friends.

His health becoming somewhat precarious, a very few years before his death, he returned to the city, and resided at his dwelling in Arch Street, where he died, in the seventy-second year of his age, March 14, 1819.

## REDWOOD FISHER.

REDWOOD FISHER, the son of Miers Fisher, Esquire, a distinguished lawyer of Philadelphia, and of Sarah, his wife, the daughter of William Redwood, Esq., of Providence, R. I., was born the 18th of August, 1782. Having received the elements of a liberal education, and a taste for polite letters, which proved in his later years a source of the purest enjoyment, he entered, while still young, the counting-house of Thomas, Samuel, & Miers Fisher, in his native city. There he remained till some months after he came of age. But at this time, an opportunity for seeing somewhat more of the world having presented itself, he gladly embraced it; and, by two successive voyages, in the capacity of supercargo,—the one to Batavia and the Isle of France, and the other to Canton,—he enlarged the sphere of his practical experience. Afterwards, in the course of a somewhat chequered life, he was frequently employed in the same capacity, and had some adventures of an interesting kind. On one occasion, in 1810 or 1811, the vessel in which he sailed was taken by a French privateer, and carried into Copenhagen; from whence, after two or three years of untiring exertion, he succeeded in obtaining her release, with that of some twenty other vessels, similarly captured. At a later date, the spring of 1817, the *Thomas Scattergood*, a ship owned by Ed. Thomson, Esq., and bound for Canton, was boarded by pirates, who made a clean sweep of all the cabin stores; but a more valuable booty, some three hundred thousand dollars in specie, Mr. Fisher managed to keep from the knowledge of the rogues by his admirable presence of mind, and tact in conversation. In his business enterprises on his own account he was less fortunate. His last undertaking of the kind, the woollen and cotton manufacturing business, which he entered into with Lamar G. Wills and J. M. Fisher, at New Hope, Pennsylvania, having terminated unsuccessfully, in 1824, he was employed by the manufacturers of New England as their agent, to

procure the passage of a tariff act, and transacted the business to their entire satisfaction.

From this time he was much engaged in labors of the pen, a kind of work more congenial to him, and for which he had shown his capacity some years before; "The Artist's Manual," a book he had compiled while settling the affairs of the bookselling and publishing business of his deceased brother, Samuel R. Fisher, having been favorably received by the public for the scientific and practical information it contained. About the year 1830, he removed to New York, and established a daily paper, under the title of "The New York American Advocate and Journal," afterwards changed to "The New York Journal and Advertiser." Being a warm personal and political friend of Mr. Clay, he spared no exertions, either as a writer or speaker, in urging his claims to the Presidency. At this period he was twice elected a municipal judge. Subsequently, during the administration of Mr. Tyler, he was appointed Assistant Postmaster of New York, and under General Taylor, Appraiser of the Customs in Philadelphia. "The National Magazine and Industrial Record," a monthly journal, advocating the protective policy, whose career naturally closed with the settling of that question by the tariff act of 1846, numerous contributions to various periodicals, and a copious correspondence, flowing from his affectionate disposition and active mind, gave employment to the later years of his life, and enabled him to exercise talents, which, if cultivated earlier, would have left a more abiding mark upon the literature of the country.

Mr. Fisher was twice married. Of his first wife, Mary, eldest daughter of Dr. Samuel Powell Griffitts, one son and one daughter survived him; of his second, Rebecca, daughter of Gideon H. Wells, Esq., two sons and two daughters.

In mind he was distinguished by a lively fancy, retentive memory, conversational powers of a very high order, and such taste and culture as is derived from an extensive and appreciative reading of the best English and French models. His disposition was sociable, affectionate, unselfish, and benevolent to a remarkable degree.

During a large portion of his life his religious belief partook of the laxity which is, in so many cases, a fruit of the multitudinous "isms" of the day. He always retained, however, a profound



respect for the moral precepts of the Gospel, and for the pure and blameless life of benevolence therein commended. In his latter years, being brought into contact with faith of a more positive sort, his mind was too active, his heart too warm, and his conscience too sensitive, to allow him to dissent from the common belief of Christendom without an honest effort at least to ascertain the grounds of his own convictions. He courted, rather than avoided, conversation on religious subjects. Being perfectly frank in the expression of his own unbelief or doubts, he appreciated frankness in the expression of belief on the part of others. He, in fact, gave much time to the friendly discussion and review of difficulties and perplexities, which had more or less unsettled, but had never eradicated entirely his faith in Christianity. The result was a thorough and well-weighed renunciation of his doubts. When, in his last illness, he sent for a minister of the Church, and professed his desire of baptism, and of admission to the participation of the Lord's supper, he accompanied the latter request with a deliberate statement of his creed, orthodox in sentiment, beautiful in expression, and, so admirably discriminating in its definition, that no one who heard him dictate it, or read it afterwards, could entertain a doubt of the thorough and careful consideration he had given the whole subject. After a tedious and painful struggle with disease, he departed in peace, May 17, 1856. His body awaits the resurrection in the churchyard of St. James the Less, near Philadelphia.

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## THOMAS FISHER.

BY HENRY D. GILPIN.

THOMAS FISHER was born in Philadelphia, on the 21st of January, 1801. He died on the 12th of February, 1856, in the house in Front Street, where he was born. It is one of the few dwellings in Philadelphia that still retain, in appearance, the style of more than a century ago. It was built by his grandfather when that part of the city embraced the principal portion of the best private

dwelling, and when the Dock Creek was a stream flowing in the rear of its garden, not far beyond which were the open fields.

Though Mr. Fisher entered early in life into commercial pursuits, and from time to time occupied himself with them, his tastes were literary and scientific. Of several institutions for the cultivation of science, especially the Academy of the Natural Sciences, he was an active and intelligent associate. He was also the author of more than one work giving evidence of considerable attainment, as well as thought and research, in different fields of scientific investigation. His "Dial of the Seasons," published in 1845, is a beautiful disquisition on the effects of climate and latitude in the development of animal and vegetable nature. It is written in a pleasing style, often rising to striking and imaginative passages, and introducing occasional poetic descriptions of much beauty. It dwells, in succession, on the species of plants and animals that characterize and are affected by different degrees of latitude; and it brings together facts that exhibit the influence of the same cause on the human system, mental and physical; on civilization; and on moral and intellectual development. A pictorial diagram accompanies the volume, and illustrates, with much graphic effect, the views that the work presents.

In 1853 this volume was followed by a work, entitled, "Mathematics Simplified and made Attractive; or, the Laws of Motion Explained," which also is accompanied by a series of beautiful diagrams. This work gives proof of much reflection, and is intended to facilitate the study of mathematics, by teaching a physical geometry, illustrated at each step, by a course of reasoning of which the laws are explained by well-drawn figures. Mr. Fisher attended the great Industrial Exhibition in London in 1851, and brought this subject to the consideration of the jury charged with the examination of philosophical instruments and processes depending on their use, of which Sir David Brewster was the chairman. From this enlightened body Mr. Fisher's work received honorable mention; and, in their notice of it, they remark upon its merit as applying the idea of teaching, by physical perception, to a wider range of subjects than merely making very exact drawings of the propositions to be demonstrated in Euclid; they also comment upon the ingenuity of the details, and the beauty of the illustrative

drawings. The work has since attracted much notice among eminent persons in the United States, who have pursued inquiries in regard to the simplification of mathematical instruction; and it will, doubtless, be the basis of great improvement in this respect. The volume itself combines, with its scientific details, much pleasing illustration, narrative and biographical, connected with the subject.

With these graver studies, Mr. Fisher united a warm devotion to letters, and an excellent poetic taste. He gave to the world, in the year 1850, a volume, entitled, "Song of the Sea-Shells, and other Poems," evincing much imagination, and an animated and expressive style of versification. His subjects are not unfrequently taken from his scientific pursuits. He exhibits an ardent and attractive love of nature in its poetic aspects. The incidents springing from worldly struggles and ambition are, indeed, now and then dwelt upon; but the starry firmament, the wonders and attraction of astronomy, the birds, the sea-side shells, the mountains, and the ocean, are themes more congenial to his muse. A beautiful elegy, commemorating the secluded tomb of Wilson, the ornithologist, in the cemetery of the old Swedes' Church, is written with a feeling indicating the sympathy of a mind that has found its greatest happiness in the tranquil investigations of nature.

The personal character and habits of Mr. Fisher were in unison with his favorite pursuits. His manners were unobtrusive and simple, almost to eccentricity; his temper, though full of hope and cheerfulness, was unexcitable and serene. The distinctions of the world, and the vicissitudes of fortune, never appeared to influence his conduct, or even to enter into his thoughts; and, though his occasional engagements in commercial business were not unattended with some reverses, these never affected the buoyancy of his disposition, or the integrity and simplicity of his life.

## JOHN FITCH.

THE ancestors of John Fitch were originally Saxon, and emigrated to Essex, in England; from thence, they went out to Windsor, Connecticut; where his great-grandfather purchased one-twentieth of the original settlement, and left it to his three sons, Joseph, Nathaniel, and Samuel.

John Fitch, the inventor, was born on the line between Hartford and Windsor, on the 21st January, 1743. He served his time, after he was eighteen years of age, at clockmaking, with Benjamin Cheany, in East Windsor. He had two brothers, namely, Joseph and Augustus, and three sisters, Sarah, Anne, and Chloe. He said of himself, that, "take him all in all, he was the most singular man of his age,—he having the winds and the fates against him through all his life!" He met with harsh treatment in early life from several, and especially from an elder brother with whom he lived (his "good mother," Sarah Shaler, having died when he was only four years of age), and he embraced infidel opinions when he was but seventeen years of age, superinduced, as he himself thought, by some certain slights inflicted upon him about the building of a certain meeting-house in the neighborhood. He was in his earliest youth fond of books and study, which he probably inherited from his father, John Fitch (the son of Joseph Fitch), who had a genius for astronomy, mathematics, and natural philosophy, and was truly an honest and good man.

John Fitch, the subject of this memoir, was married, in the twenty-fifth year of his age, to Lucy Roberts, his elder, on the 29th December, 1767, and had a son, born the 3d November, 1768; but he only lived with his wife, with whom he dwelt in continual discord, until the 18th January, 1769; when, as he says in his MS. books, he could endure it no longer, and so left his home, to seek more contentment in Trenton, New Jersey. There he remained, and pursued the business of a silversmith and the repairing of clocks, until the breaking out of the Revolutionary war, when he estimated his property to be worth £800. He then took to gunsmithing, for

furthering on the war ; employed twenty hands at it until the entry of the British, when they destroyed his tools and furniture. He then fled into Bucks County, to the house of John Mitchell, in Attleborough, and afterwards to Charles Garrison's, in Westminster township. While there, his four thousand dollars in continental money depreciated to one hundred dollars. After this, he went to the West, in 1780, as surveyor in Kentucky, and in 1782, intending a voyage to New Orleans with flour, he was made prisoner by the Indians, near the mouth of the Muskingum, on the Ohio. He was then carried, or rather driven twelve hundred miles, bare-headed, to Detroit and Prison Island, where he was given up to the British as a prisoner of war. He and his party were the first whites who were captured after Wilkinson's massacre of the Moravian Indians ; and they had just reasons to fear every evil from their revenge. Of that captivity he used to relate many very stirring and affecting anecdotes.

It ought to be here mentioned, that many facts of himself are related with much apparent frankness in his MS. books, bequeathed to the Philadelphia Library Company, and which, being sealed, were not to be opened until thirty years after his death, and never to be lent out of the institution without a pledge of £500 for their safe return. Thus quitting his own age and appealing to another, as if to say, that *he foresaw* that the next age could alone *do justice* to his memory. There is, however, we are assured, for we have not closely inspected them, much of deep instruction to be found in many of his observations. Speaking of himself while at Trenton, he says, that he had *proved* the fact that "the best way to make the world believe him honest, was to be the thing itself," and to his sedulous practice therein he ascribes his rapid advancement in property. He had while there a greater run of business than any silversmith, even in Philadelphia itself ; and his tools were certainly the best set in the United States.

There were two persons of Bucks County, women, who were the neighbors and frequent observers of John Fitch, whilst he was a resident at Garrison's, and whilst he was working for himself at his inventions in Jacobus Scouter's wheelwright shop ; they were named Mary McDowell and Mrs. Jonathan Delany. From Mary I have learned some facts of Fitch's land and property in Ken-



tucky. He owned there sixteen hundred acres; and whilst he was engaged with his favorite object, the steam enterprise, others settled the land, and built thereon a fine mill and sundry dwellings and outhouses. Being possessed of capital, and having possession, they were enabled to suspend and defer any legal action. She thinks that his friends, Joseph Budd and Dr. Say, were in partnership with Fitch about its recovery. Fitch, while in Kentucky, was a deputy surveyor, and seems to have been intimate with Colonel Todd and Colonel Harrod, then men of consideration and consequence there. He had one of the best requisites of an efficient surveyor, in that he was a great walker; being tall, slender, and sinewy. He told Mary that he had sold eight hundred of his maps of the northwestern parts of the United States, in the western parts of Virginia and Pennsylvania, making all his journey on foot; and on such occasions, he could always out-travel a horse. In walking he pitched forward, and went onward with a great swing. On one occasion, when he was robbed of his silver and gold to the amount of £200, which he had buried, for its better security, at Warminster, he walked to Spring Mill and back before sunset, making forty miles in the journey. One of his maps is now at Warminster, preserved as a relic of the genius of the man. It is inscribed as "Engraved and printed by the author;" and with equal truth it might have been imprinted thus: "Engraved in Cobe Scouts's wheelwright shop, and printed on Charles Garrison's cider-press, by the author," for such were the facts in the case. All these efforts of the man were specially designed to raise funds, whereby to push forward to completion and success the absorbing subject of his steam invention. That was the theme and the purpose of all his thoughts and wishes.

"Slow rises worth by poverty depressed!" It was observed of Mr. Fitch, that frequently when engaged at his work in the shop aforesaid, he would suddenly let fall his tools, and sit in an inclined posture for two hours at a time. The "worthy Nathaniel Irwin," the Presbyterian minister at Neshaminy, was a frequent visitor of Fitch while employed at Cobe Scouts's (*i. e.* Jacobus Scouter's), and would often stay examining the mechanical operations, and holding conversation with the inventor, for half a day at a time. Fitch deemed his visitor a "worthy man," and would frequently attend

his sermons at the Neshaminy Church. His friend, Cobe Scout, lived in the year 1829, and died at the age of ninety years.

We are indebted to Mary McDowell for the fact, that Fitch had a daughter by his wife, born not long after he left his home. She (Mary) says that the cause of his leaving his wife was an unfounded jealousy, and coupled with the fact, that she united herself with the Methodists against his will and expressed desire. This last may seem a small offence in the eyes of those who now appreciate the measure of offence to Fitch's hopes and wishes! Besides, he was, as I learned, a man of quick temper, easily provoked, not "slow to anger," and, in the case of his wife, hard to reconcile. We understood it to be a fact, that Mrs. Fitch, after the death of her father—who left a good estate to herself and her two children—sent her brother-in-law, Burnham, with a letter to her husband, urging his return again to Connecticut, and offering, "to maintain him like a gentleman for life," but he was inflexible, and peremptorily refused the proffered benefit. His spirit was entirely unbroken, though the winds and the fates were adverse in so many other things. He sent a pair of silver shoe-buckles to his son, and a gold ring to his daughter; but to his wife he refused to send any token of regard or remembrance, although he was much importuned thereto at the time by Garrison's wife.

The daughter of John Fitch, named Lucy, married Colonel James Kilbourne, of Worthington, Franklin County, Ohio; he was a gentleman of respectability and influence, and had a family of six children: all married and had children. The wife of John Fitch is buried at Hartford, Ohio. Colonel Luther Fitch, postmaster at Sharon, Ohio, who died there in 1841, and left a family, was the son of John Fitch's brother Joseph.

In his wanderings for patrons, he visited London in 1793, and there published two of his pamphlets, now in the Philosophical Library in Philadelphia. He was in person upright and "straight as an arrow," and stood six feet two inches in his stocking feet; was what was called "thin and spare;" face slim; complexion tawny; hair very black; and a dark eye, peculiarly piercing; his temper was sensitive and quick, *but soon over*. His general character in Bucks County, among his immediate friends, was, "that he bore anger as the flint bears fire, which, being much enforced, shows a

hasty spark, and quick is cold again." His countenance was pleasing and somewhat smiling. "In point of morals and conduct, he was perfectly upright; sincere and honorable in all his dealings, and was never known to tell a wilful falsehood." This was certainly a good character, and makes us remember how Thomas Jefferson rested his reputation among his neighbors, by quoting from the prophet Samuel his challenge, and saying, in effect, "let my religion be appreciated by my life." Whatever the mass of the public may have considered or believed, it was a fact that John Fitch had, in Warminster and thereabout, a worthy band of warm admirers and enthusiastic friends.

John Fitch was ready with his pen, although somewhat careless as a composer. He wrote much as he would have talked, and seems to have resorted on many occasions to writing rather than speaking, as if preferring to present himself for consideration in that way in his intercourse with men in his business concerns, rather than by conversation.

All things considered, it appears probable that Fitch must have died about the year 1798, at or near Bardstown, Nelson County, Kentucky. This inference is made because he would be likely to be called there to prosecute his claims. These he was earnest to make good for his son, to whom he thus manifested parental fondness and regard.

At this crisis of his affairs, feeling "impatient at the law's delay," he is said to have declared in court, "I'll wait no longer," and, feigning illness, he told a physician that he could not sleep, and wished to take an anodyne. This he received, from time to time, in the form of opium, without using it till he had enough to take at once, and then wrapped himself in eternal sleep! Thus perished the man whose sensitive and disappointed mind could not brook the cold apathy of the world, which was seemingly looking upon his darling project as the impulse of a diseased and deranged mind. He made a will in June, 1798, and died a few days after. He had often been heard to say, before this catastrophe, that, if he failed to obtain his legal rights, he should not choose to survive his disappointment.

As soon as the place in Kentucky was ascertained where rest the remains of John Fitch, measures were taken to have them

deposited at the Laurel Hill Cemetery, where they might have a suitable monument erected over them. But it was deferred, owing to the interference of several gentlemen there, who were desirous of having them remain in that State, with a view to their being deposited under a monument, to be erected on the margin of the River Ohio, below Louisville, in sight of passengers on the steamboats. This was in accordance with his expressed wish,—and, therefore, should be inscribed on the tablet, to wit:—

“His darling wish (he said) was to be buried  
on the margin of the Ohio,—  
where the song of the boatmen might penetrate  
the stillness of his resting-place;  
and where the sound of the steam-engine  
might send its echoes abroad.”

*Nihil mihi optatius accidere poterat !*

Another inscription, equally forcible, from his own pen, might be placed, with like fitness, on another side of this monument, to wit:—

While living, he declared,—  
“This will be the mode of crossing the Atlantic in time,  
whether I shall bring it to perfection or not.”  
  
“Steamboats will be preferred to all other conveyance,  
and will be particularly useful  
in the navigation of the Ohio and Mississippi.”  
  
“The day will come when some more potent man will  
get fame and riches *for my invention.*”

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## THOMAS FITZSIMMONS.

THOMAS FITZSIMMONS was a native of Ireland, and a Catholic. He was an extensive merchant of Philadelphia, before and during the Revolution, commanded a volunteer company, and was engaged in active service during the war. After the war, he was for many years a member of the State Legislature, and represented Phila-

delphia in Congress with distinction. He was for a long time a Director in the Bank of North America, and President of the Insurance Company of North America, in which latter office he continued until his death. He was a man of high and honorable character, and his influence in the country, and especially among the merchants, was second to none. He married a sister of George Meade, and died about the year 1824, without issue.

Mr. Fitzsimmons was one of those efficient and able men who laid the foundations of the commercial and financial systems of the United States. He, and Mr. Goodhue, of Salem, though they spoke but seldom and briefly, were always looked to in Congress for facts and the correction of errors in practical questions of commerce, exchange, &c., and the operation of legislative measures in relation thereto.

To have been a counsellor and adviser of Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, &c., the coadjutor of Robert Morris, in what vitally concerned, not only the present safety, but the future prosperity of these United States, is fame that few men of those times could aspire to, and yet is nothing more than may with justice be claimed for Thomas Fitzsimmons. His house, namely, George Meade & Co., subscribed to supply the army, in 1780, £5000. His name is attached to the Constitution of the United States.

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## PLUNKETT FLEESON.

PLUNKETT FLEESON, or "Squire Fleeson," was born in Philadelphia, A. D. 1712. His father had emigrated from Ireland very soon after the founding of the city, and being a man of considerable means, he took care that young Plunkett should receive what was in those days considered a good education. In 1749, during the war with France and Spain, and when the people of Philadelphia were much afraid of the incursions of the privateers of the enemy, Plunkett Fleeson joined one of the numerous bands of "Associators" which had been formed for the defence of the city. His name figures as Ensign of the "Second Company of Associators."



In 1752 he was among the public-spirited citizens who founded the Hibernia Engine Company. Mr. Fleeson was an active and shrewd business man, and he accumulated a handsome fortune in the various stations held by him as Justice of the Peace, and in the "upholder" business, as it was called. In 1765 he took an active part against the aggressions of the British Government, and his name appears in that year among those of his fellow-tradesmen, signed to a remonstrance against the taxation of the Colonies and the other oppressive measures which finally brought about the Revolution.

Throughout the Revolutionary struggle, "Squire Fleeson" was an ardent and sincere supporter and advocate of the popular cause, and, as he had retired in a great measure from active business at the time, he engaged with much warmth in the events then in progress in the country, and his name frequently appears in the published accounts of the movements of the day in Philadelphia. In 1780, "Squire Fleeson" was commissioned by the President and Executive Council of the State as President Judge of the City Court, and he filled the office for several years.

Under the authority of his commission, which was duly signed by William Moore, President, and attested by Timothy Matlack, Secretary, "Squire Fleeson" presided at the hearings at the old Court House, which formerly occupied the middle of Market Street, at Second Street, and there he administered and dealt out the rigors of the law to offenders.

"Squire Fleeson" was among the early contributors to the Pennsylvania Hospital, and he was also a Director of that institution. His useful life was prolonged until near his eightieth year. He died in 1791. He left several children. His daughter Patty married a Mr. Thomas Canadine, November 19th, 1776.

The descendants of Plunkett Fleeson are J. R. and H. B. Fry, who now reside in Philadelphia, and W. H. Fry, who resides in New York, sons of the late William Fry, and great-grandsons of the subject of our memoir. R. C. Fleeson, of Pittsburg, is also a descendant of Mr. Fleeson the elder.

## COLONEL THOMAS FORREST.

COLONEL FORREST resided at Germantown, and for several years represented in part the county of Philadelphia in the United States Congress. He died in 1828, at the age of eighty-three years. He had been, in early days, a youth of much frolic, and always well disposed to give time and application to forward a joke. He found much to amuse himself in the credulity of some of the German families, his neighbors, who were, about the time of the Revolution, very superstitious. He was fond of relating accounts of Blackbeard and the pirates to the young and old, and tales were frequently told that this and that person had heard of some of his discovered treasure. Mr. Forrest wrote a very humorous play, which contained many incidents of a kind of superstition, but it gave such offence to the parties represented, that it could not be exhibited on the stage.

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## WILLIAM FOULKE.

WILLIAM FOULKE was born of religious parents, early settlers of Gwynedd, from whom he received a pious education, to which, with the visitation of Divine grace, he so far attended from early youth, that in the several characters of husband, father, master, and neighbor, with his hospitality and charitable disposition to the poor, he was much endeared to his family, friends, and neighbors. Being a man of integrity and a lover of peace, he endeavored to promote it in others, and was remarkably imbued with a happy talent for composing differences and reclaiming offenders, in which service he was much exercised.

In the stations of elder and overseer, which he filled for a number of years, he was exemplary and servicable. His health gradually declined for several months; and though his disorder

proved lingering, he was enabled to bear it with resignation and patience, expressing the expectation of his change with calmness.

The day before his decease, a friend who visited him mentioned what a comfortable reflection it must be to him, when drawing near to the close of life, that he had filled up the station allotted him in a good degree of faithfulness; he replied, "I have no sight when my change may be; I endeavor to be resigned; I have not anything to boast of; I have not anything to expect from any works I have done; it was but little; but I have experienced that the Lord is merciful, in whom I trust, having redeemed my soul from destruction. I much desire to be within the pale of happiness, somewhere within the door where I may find a quiet habitation."

He continued sensible to the last, and departed this life on the 30th of August, 1775, in the sixty-seventh year of his age.

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## TENCH FRANCIS.

TENCH FRANCIS was a native of Pennsylvania. His father was Attorney-General of Pennsylvania, and a relative of Dr. Francis, the translator of Horace, and Sir Philip Francis, one of the reputed authors of Junius's letters. Mr. Francis was for many years agent for the Penn family in Pennsylvania, and was the first cashier of the Bank of North America, which office he retained until his death. Several of his descendants are now living, among them Governor Francis of Rhode Island. Mr. Francis was a *bon vivant*, wit, and man of talent. It appears from the minutes of the "Friendly Sons of St. Patrick," that Mr. Philip Francis was proposed as a member of said society, March 17th, 1772. Quære: Was this the well-known Sir Philip Francis? Mr. Francis subscribed £5000, in 1780, for supplying the American army with provisions.



appointed  
Philadelphia,  
America, and  
with a view of  
a journey to  
the residence  
of the Secretary  
of the Treasury

1866 July  
Master of all  
the affairs of the  
United States  
he was appointed  
Secretary and with  
him he was  
1866, Secretary of  
the Department of  
the Treasury  
His Library does  
not contain  
any books of  
the Treasury





## BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, LL.D., F.R.S.

THIS celebrated patriot, republican, philosopher, and statesman, died in Philadelphia, 17th April, 1790, aged eighty-four years and three months; and on the north side, within a few feet of the northwest corner of Christ Church graveyard, in Arch Street, Philadelphia, may be seen a plain, common tomb, which covers the remains of the venerable and great Franklin, and bears the following very concise inscription:—

Benjamin  
and  
Deborah Franklin,  
1790.

On the 10th July, 1749, Thomas Oxnard, Provincial (modern) Grand Master of all North America, appointed Franklin First Provincial Grand Master of Pennsylvania. On the 11th June, 1776, he was appointed by Congress, on the committee with Thomas Jefferson and others, to prepare the Declaration of Independence, of which he was one of the signers. On the 14th September, 1778, Congress elected him Minister to France; being the first regular appointment of a minister plenipotentiary, the former ones being styled commissioners. His statue was placed over the Philadelphia Library door, in South Fifth Street, below Chestnut Street, west side, in 1792. He, like many other distinguished characters, was much indebted to circumstances. It is probable, however, that had his lot thrown him in an older or more refined community than America was in his youth, he would not have been contemplated as the sun of the system.

At an early age, he adopted a system of vegetable diet, by which he saved one-half the money allowed for his board; and he states that by abstaining from meat, he found his apprehension quicker, and the faculties of his mind greatly improved. At the age of sixteen, he read Locke on the Human Understanding, the Port Royal Logic, and Xenophon's Memorabilia, with great interest.

It was a peculiarity which gave Franklin a great advantage from his early youth, to have mingled business with study and speculation. He thus acquired theoretical and practical knowledge together, and was skilful in applying his knowledge. Lord Kames was highly gratified in becoming his correspondent, from the delight he took in him as a philosopher; their friendship, formed in Europe, subsisted until the termination of their lives. While in London, he continued to devote his leisure hours to books and study; and, in 1726, after a stay of a year and a half, he returned to America, with Mr. Denham, a merchant of Philadelphia, as his clerk, at a salary of fifty pounds a year. On his arrival, he found that his old sweetheart, Miss Read, had been induced by her parents, in consequence of his neglect, which Franklin justly regarded as one of the great errors of his life, to marry another man. Extraordinary circumstances, however, prevented that couple from living together; and, at a subsequent time, Franklin married the lady, who proved an excellent and good wife.

“Reading,” says he, “was the only amusement I allowed myself. I spent no time in taverns, gaming, or frolics of any kind; and my industry in my business continued as indefatigable as it was necessary. My original habits of frugality continued; and, my father having among his instructions to me when a boy, frequently repeated a proverb of Solomon, ‘Seest thou a man diligent in his calling, he shall stand before kings, he shall not stand before mean men,’ I thence considered industry as a means of obtaining distinction; which encouraged me, though I did not think I should ever literally stand before kings, which, however, has since happened; for I have stood before five, and even had the honor of sitting down with one (the King of Denmark) to dinner.”

The personal connections which Dr. Franklin formed during his residence in England, were of the most valuable and distinguished kind. He corresponded extensively with the most eminent individuals of the continent, and his letters to his friends and constituents occupied much of his time. He was blessed with an excellent constitution, which, aided by temperance, caused him to enjoy a long continuance of robust health to an advanced age, when he became subject to fits of the gout.

In 1732, having had leisure for both reading and writing, he

began to publish "Poor Richard's Almanac," which he continued with great success for many years. "The Way to Wealth," extracted from that publication, and consisting of numerous and valuable concise maxims, has been translated into various languages, and inserted in almost every newspaper and magazine in England and America. In 1741 he started "The General Magazine and Historical Chronicle," and invented the Franklin stove. In 1746, being in Boston, he witnessed some experiments in electricity; they were imperfectly performed, but were, nevertheless, the origin of one of the most brilliant discoveries in natural philosophy, which alone would have been fame enough to have established a claim to immortality. Upon his return to Philadelphia, he repeated the same experiments with complete success, and adding others, of which some accounts had reached him from England, the science for a time wholly occupied his time and ambition. He acquired, by practice, a dexterity in performing these experiments, and soon diffused his fame through the world, and drew upon his native country the regard and attention of all Europe. He was the first who fired gunpowder, gave magnetism to needles of steel, melted metals, and killed animals of considerable size, by means of electricity.

In stature, Franklin was above the middle size; manly, athletic, and gracefully proportioned. Such was, in part, the great philosopher of America and the world.

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## WILLIAM FRY.

WILLIAM FRY, one of the oldest, if not the very oldest, newspaper proprietor in the United States, died in this city on the 31st of August, 1855. He was born in 1777. With Mr. Robert Walsh, Mr. Fry established the old "National Gazette," a journal which enjoyed a national celebrity at the time when Philadelphia was the financial centre of the Union. It may be truly affirmed that no newspaper was more esteemed by men of taste and erudition than the "Gazette," with which the deceased was so long connected. Its institution, in the words of Dr. Griswold, in the history of our literature, formed an era in American letters.

At the commencement of this century, Mr. Fry, together with Roberts Vaux and James Barclay, and some other young men of the time, laid the foundation of the first public school in Pennsylvania, and, with these pioneers, never ceased to agitate the subject of public education until it became general, under the laws of the State, in 1836. At the time of his death he was President of the Parent Educational Society. Mr. Fry took equal and constant interest in other schemes for the promotion of intellectual and benevolent acts. He was invariably esteemed for his courtesy, comity, and integrity.

He was supreme as a conversationalist,—not less remarkable for the freshness of thought, and range of illustration, than for his pure, spontaneous English.

Mr. James J. Barclay, who had been associated with him for many years in the Board of Managers of the Philadelphia Society for the Establishment and Support of Charity Schools, speaks thus of Mr. Fry, in presenting the Annual Report of that institution in January, 1856 :—

“The last link which bound the past with the present has been severed. The venerable President of the Society has ceased from his labors. William Fry was no ordinary man. Endowed with high mental powers, and possessed of great natural worth and energy, he took an active part for many years in all those measures which were calculated to improve the condition or ameliorate the sufferings of the young, the poor, or the friendless. The managers may be permitted to pay a passing tribute to the memory of one who was so identified with our schools.

“He was born in Philadelphia. His ancestors were among the earliest settlers in Pennsylvania. He was carefully educated ; and, influenced by his love of literature, he became a bookseller in 1801. He shortly afterwards added an extensive printing-office to his establishment, and soon ranked among the best printers of the country. His edition of ‘Barlow’s Columbiad,’ printed in 1807, still ranks among the most beautiful specimens of American typography. Warm and generous in his feelings, he took a deep interest in the benevolent objects of the day. In the cause of education he was enthusiastic, and ere he attained his majority was actively and usefully engaged in promoting the success of our schools, and



was elected Chairman of the Board of Managers in 1801. The pressing and constant demands of his extensive business rendered it out of his power to give attention to the management of the schools, and he retired from the Board; but he continued to feel a lively interest in the success of the Society. He was elected President of the Society in 1854, and continued in that office until his death.

"In 1820 he became the publisher of 'The National Gazette,' a journal highly appreciated and widely circulated. He continued associated with the 'Gazette' until 1840. He did not escape the trials incident to humanity, but he bore them with firmness and resignation. In his retirement, he passed his time in reading and contemplation. After a long and painful illness, he expired in the seventy-eighth year of his age."

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## BENJAMIN FULLER.

BENJAMIN FULLER, a native of Ireland, came to this country early in life. He was the most eminent ship-broker of his time in Philadelphia; remarkable for his correctness in business transactions. His accounts and minutes of the Society of the "Friendly Sons of St. Patrick," are a pattern of neatness and precision. He accumulated a handsome fortune, and died a bachelor.

Like many other gentlemen of that day, he abhorred *physic*, and the visits of medical gentlemen in their official capacity. At one time, while lying dangerously ill, on his snug little bed, in his bachelor chamber, over his counting-house, a consultation of physicians was held in his room. The doctors conversed together in an audible voice, and just as they had concluded him past recovery, and that nothing farther could be done in his case, to their great astonishment he drew aside the curtains, and exclaimed, in his usual energetic manner, "Gentlemen, I am greatly obliged to you! I feel much better since you entered the room! You may go away now, gentlemen; I shall not want your services any longer." While

the physicians looked at each other in amazement he rang the bell, and addressing the servant, desired him to "show the gentlemen down stairs." They assured the servant his master was delirious, and presuming there was no hope of his recovery, were proceeding to give directions that he might be indulged in anything he might desire to have, when Mr. F. cut them short by calling out, "John, John, turn them out and fasten the doors after them; I'll take no more of their infernal drugs." On the return of the servant, he had all the bottles and medicines thrown out of the window, and the crisis of his disease being then passed, he from that moment rapidly recovered. He lived for many years afterwards, and when his friends joked with him on this treatment of the doctors, he would reply, "The scoundrels wanted to kill me with their cursed stuffs, but I lived to attend both their funerals." Mr. Fuller subscribed £2000, in 1780, to supply the American army with provisions.

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## ROBERT FULTON.

THIS distinguished man was born in the year 1768, in the county of Lancaster, in the State of Pennsylvania, and began his career as an apprentice to a goldsmith, in Philadelphia. He soon gave evidence of great and manifold talents, among which, when a moneyed friend furnished him with the means of visiting London, a special capacity for mechanics, and a fondness for the study of the steam-engine and its possible uses, speedily developed themselves. In the summer of 1807, he finished his newly-built steamer "Clermont," constructed by him at his own expense. She was 130 feet in length, 16½ feet broad, and 7 feet depth of hold, rating 160 tons. On a fine day, at 12 o'clock, she left the banks of the Hudson, with about 400 passengers, and made right for the middle of the stream, and described a circle three times in succession. Then, defying the force of the winds and waves alike, she dashed gallantly along her way to Albany, as though the most favorable breeze were filling her sails. A vociferous cheer arose from the thousands assembled on both banks of the Hudson to witness, with

their own eyes, the reality of this truly grand experiment, and its brilliant success. This was a great day for Fulton,—for the doubts and fears of his friends had heretofore almost made him doubt his own senses.

In the English capital he made the acquaintance of a fellow-countryman, James Rumsey; and, from him, he no doubt gathered the idea of applying steam to navigation; for Rumsey had dealt with John Fitch a long time in Philadelphia, and had, as early as the year 1788, been an applicant, in common with him, for a patent guaranteeing the exclusive navigation by steam of all the waters of Pennsylvania. They had failed in this effort, because their petition set forth no express method of the application to ships and boats; and the Legislature of Pennsylvania and Congress very properly hesitated to recommend or grant a patent for the undefined special application for a mere idea, of which several might be in the possession at the same time; and, it has since appeared, really were. In England, Rumsey was more fortunate, and procured a patent on the 24th March, 1790. The drawing of the steamship planned by Fitch is to be found in the first volume of "*Brewster's Encyclopædia*." The vessel was to be propelled by means of stern wheels; and the scheme differs but little from that of Rumsey, who was fortunate enough in London to find an American capitalist, and to interest him in the affair. Just as the construction of the vessel had been commenced the latter died. The parties interested tried to go on with it, but did not succeed.

At the same time several Englishmen and Scotchmen came forward with similar projects, particularly an engineer named Symington, who, after he had, as early as 1788 and 1789, become more or less acquainted with the plans of the American, at length, some twelve years later, succeeded in completing a steam vessel, which he named the *Charlotte Dundas*, and set it in motion, with quite a favorable result, on the *Forth-and-Clyde Canal*. He thereupon received orders to build several similar boats for the navigation of the same canal, with the prospect of constructing many more for the *Bridgewater Canal*. But the Board of Directors of the *Forth-and-Clyde Canal* opposed the execution of this plan. The Duke of *Bridgewater* died, and Symington, who had spent a considerable

portion of his fortune in experiments of all kinds, drew back, and occupied himself with various improvements of his plan, for which he received patents from time to time.

Yet, of all the projects relating to the introduction of steam navigation, none were carried into complete execution until, finally, after the peace concluded at Ghent, in 1814, between England and the United States, English travellers, convinced, probably, by the complete success of Fulton's experiment in America, spread the knowledge of it in their own country, incited others to follow Fulton's example, and ere long awakened a general desire to make the history of navigation by steam a subject of pursuit, and to disseminate the assertion that the American was not the inventor, but that its origin was in the first instance British, and that Fulton could claim only the merit of having transplanted it to American soil.

In the meanwhile, Fulton had not been idle; but, with all the peculiar energy of the American enterprising character, had been straining every nerve to procure the introduction of navigation by steam into his country. However, he found but little vantage ground, and secured but little faith and no assistance in his undertakings, even from his family, the Livingstons, of New York State, most of whom were wealthy, some of them having already been engaged in every description of steamboat and steamship projects. This drove him again to Europe, and from England to Paris, where Chancellor Livingston, a relative, was then residing as Ambassador for the United States, and could make him acquainted with scientific men of all classes. He likewise fell in with another relative, Robert Livingston, who had, previously to that time, made experiments in steam navigation, in connection with his countryman, Stevens. Fulton and Robert Livingston hereupon had a steam-vessel built at their joint expense. At the moment when it was to perform its first evolutions on the Seine, before the eyes of the authorities and distinguished personages invited thither to witness it, it broke in two and went to pieces with the weight of its unwieldy machinery, which had, unavoidably, been constructed in England.

Fulton, not at all disheartened by this, bethought himself of other projects, and, at length, perfected plans of certain machines,



which he offered to the Government, and which were adapted to the destruction, by submarine means, of the English squadron, then blockading and annoying Cherbourg. These machines were to be sunk in the water, through which they would make their way, propelled by steam, to the keels of the hostile ships, and, there attaching themselves, explode and destroy the enemy.

The plan was, according to custom, referred to a committee of the war ministry, and the engineer corps, but regarded by them as scarcely worth the trouble of investigation. The jealousy with which the French engineers have ever looked upon strangers is notorious. Besides this, the unsuccessful trial on the Seine worked greatly to Fulton's disadvantage. Gradually his impatience reached a point where it no longer knew any bounds. He stormed the ministry, the committee, never received any satisfactory answer, and at length, backed by the Ambassador Livingston's influence, repeatedly made his way to the presence of Napoleon. The latter was taken up with quite other things, and finally, at a court ball, expressed his displeasure at Fulton's headlong zeal in the following words to Livingston: "*Debarrassez moi de ce fou d'Américain !*" "Rid me of this fool of an American !" Fulton felt that there was no longer any field open for him in Paris ; so he returned to England, assumed the name of Major Francis, and found means to bring his project before the Board of Admiralty, at whose head stood the well-known minister Dundas, afterwards Lord Melville. The idea was then conceived of blowing up the French *Ligne d'Embassade*, and the flotillas of Boulogne and Cherbourg, by means of these inventions, which Fulton called *torpedoes* and catamarans. The Navy Committee and Fulton agreed upon the price of £40,000 sterling, for which the latter was to make over his invention to the British Government, and receive the pay when a first successful trial had been accomplished. The English Admiralty had the machines prepared by their workmen, and intrusted their application to the mighty hands of Lord Nelson, who at that time commanded the English fleet off Boulogne. The experiment, however, was unsuccessful: the machines exploded out of water before they reached the French squadron. Of course there was no further thought of paying Fulton ; yet the latter was so unremitting and obstinate in laying the whole blame of failure on the unskilful con-



struction of the machines, that the Admiralty at last agreed to appoint a special committee, in whose presence the inventor should, with a machine prepared under his own personal inspection, prove the practicability of the plan at his own expense and risk,—that is to say, on a vessel belonging to himself. On the day fixed, Fulton repaired with the committee, Dundas at its head, to Deal, where a small vessel, under the American flag, and purchased by him, lay at anchor in the Roads. Fulton, holding the apparatus in his hand, requested the committee-men present to glance at their watches. It was just twelve o'clock when he let his torpedo fall into the water, with these words: "In precisely five-and-twenty minutes, gentlemen, you will see my ship yonder fly into the air." It happened as he said. The experiment was completely successful, and Fulton of course stood to the stipulated price.

On the continent, in the meanwhile, the tables had been turned. Napoleon's eye was bent upon another object than the invasion of England. His attention was absorbed in the war with Russia and Austria, and hence the danger that threatened the English shores was no longer so pressing. Consequently, an arrangement was come to with Major Francis, who finally accepted one-half the amount that had been promised to him, and returned with the money to New York, under his own proper name of Fulton.

Now, when he no longer was dependent upon outside help, his favorite idea revived in him again with fresh and increased vigor. He built, at his own expense, the large steam vessel previously described, and named it after Clermont, the country-seat of his friend, Chancellor Livingston. It reached Clermont, at a distance of one hundred and ten miles, within twenty-four hours; left that point again, at nine o'clock, on the next morning, and arrived at Albany, some forty-seven miles farther, in about eight hours. It had thus made nearly five miles per hour against wind and current. This steamboat was the first that its owner began to employ to a practical purpose and valuable result. He lived only eight years after his success.

## THOMAS H. GALLAUDET, LL.D.

THOMAS H. GALLAUDET, the American pioneer in giving instruction to the deaf and dumb, was born in the city of Philadelphia, December 10th, 1787. His father was of Huguenot descent, and his mother was a Hopkins, from whom he derived his own name, Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet. She was a descendant of one of the first settlers of Hartford, Connecticut. On this account, probably, the family of Mr. Gallaudet removed from Philadelphia to Hartford, in the year 1800, where the subject of this memoir was prepared for college. He graduated from Yale in 1805, in the class with Herman Humphrey, D.D., Samuel Farmer Jarvis, D.D., Gardiner Spring, D.D., and John Milton Whiton, D.D., being then but eighteen years of age. On leaving college, he commenced the study of the law at Hartford, under the direction of the Hon. Chauncey Goodrich and the Hon. Thomas S. Williams. In consequence of poor health, he relinquished the study of the law after one year had elapsed; and, in 1808, was appointed a tutor in Yale College, where he spent his leisure time in reading English literature and in the practice of English composition. His health being still poor from want of active exercise, he took a journey over the Alleghany Mountains. On his return, he accepted a situation as clerk in a counting-room. But this also was not in accordance with his taste, and accordingly, in 1811, he entered the Andover Theological Seminary to prepare for the ministry. In 1814, he was licensed to preach. About this time, the subject of instruction for deaf mutes became a deeply interesting topic at Hartford, and it was resolved to establish an institution for that purpose in Hartford. Mr. Gallaudet, owing to his accomplished manners, thorough education, and philosophical views on the subject of mental culture, was selected as the most suitable person to superintend this benevolent and interesting enterprise. Probably no other man in the country was his equal in that respect. May 20th, 1815, he sailed from

New York to Europe to make arrangements for the prosecution of this philanthropic project. At London and Edinburgh he met with some disappointments in the objects of his visit; but at last visited Paris, where, by the aid of the Abbé Sicard, he secured the services of Mr. Laurent Clerc, a highly educated deaf mute, one of the ablest pupils of Sicard, and one of the best teachers in the Paris Institution. With Mr. Clerc he forthwith returned to America, arriving on the 9th of August, 1816. In his absence the American Asylum for the education of deaf and dumb persons received a charter; an edifice was in process of erection, and, April 15th, 1817, he commenced with a class of seven pupils, only two years subsequent to the time of giving his consent to devote himself to this labor. The same efficiency characterized his labors through life, or as long as he retained his health. He was one of the most distinguished and useful men of his time. His labors are a more durable monument to his memory than marble or bronze; and he lived to see more than one thousand individuals receive the benefits of instruction in his own favorite Asylum, as well as to witness the establishment of similar institutions in different parts of the country, all of which originated from the parent Asylum. But seldom was Christian philanthropy more wisely directed; never was its management committed to better hands. It is not an uncommon thing to find that when men become absorbed in labors for the promotion of a particular object, especially if it be a moral one, they become indifferent to, and lose sight of everything else. It was not so with Mr. Gallaudet. He was equally as active and vigorous in forwarding all other useful projects. The cause of general literature could ever look to him for support, he being a frequent contributor to it; and it is not too much to say, that in the diversified spheres of general education he always ranked with the most vigilant operators. He published "The Mother's Primer;" "The Practical Spelling Book;" "The School and Family Dictionary;" "The Child's Picture, Defining, and Reading Book;" "Scripture Biography;" "Every Day Christian;" "Child's Book of the Soul;" "Child's Book on Repentance;" "Child's Book on Bible Stories;" "Youth's Book on Natural Theology;" public addresses and contributions to periodicals, almost without number. The continued buoyancy and vigor of his mind were wonderful. In 1830, he resigned the office

of principal in the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, and for the last few years of his life devoted his attention to the insane. He died at Hartford, September 9th, 1851, aged sixty-four years.

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## THOMAS GILPIN.

THOMAS GILPIN, the first of the name who was a resident of Philadelphia, was born in Pennsylvania, on a tract of land situated near the banks of the Brandywine Creek, on the borders of the counties of Chester and Delaware, where his grandfather, an emigrant from England, had first settled in the year 1696; and which is still inherited and held by one of his descendants.

Joseph Gilpin, who emigrated to America in that year, was a member of a respectable family, which, from early times, had resided at Kentmere, a secluded valley among the mountains of Westmoreland, whose evergreen sward, on either bank of the first rippling sources of the river Kent, shut out from the world beyond by high and rocky hills, may still attract the lovers of the picturesque to wander from the high roads of Northern England; and where a small ruined border tower, adjoining the grange or farm buildings, still shows that there was room in it to shelter the cattle below, and the people above, against the bands which, in medieval times, wandered from the border fastnesses, to attack and plunder the cultivators of the rural valleys.

In the times of the Tudors, and in the first dawn of the Reformation, it was occupied by Edwin Gilpin, two of whose sons, George and Bernard, arose to deserved public eminence, by their characters and genius.

The former, a man fond of literature, some of whose works may yet be found in the libraries of the curious, was the friend and associate of Roger Ascham, who commemorates him in his letters. He was a privy councillor of Queen Elizabeth, held under her government different places of political distinction, and finally negotiated alone, on her behalf, at the Hague, the treaty of alliance



which she formed against Spain, with Henry IV of France and the States of Holland.

His brother, Bernard Gilpin, after a youth of collegiate distinction at Oxford, devoted himself so zealously to the advocacy of the reformed religion, that his conduct and boldness might have consigned him to the same doom as Latimer and Ridley, had not this, after his arrest as a heretic, been averted by the sudden death of Queen Mary. His pastoral charge at Houghton, near Durham, which he declined to exchange for a bishop's see, and where he is yet known by the familiar title of the "Apostle of the North," still exhibits the schools and hospitals that he founded; the neighborhood is still filled with legends of his benevolence and resolute piety; and the church where he preached is still freshly adorned with the memorials by which subsequent generations continue to record their reverence for him.

In the religious and political excitement which attended and succeeded the civil wars of the next century, the separation of families as adherents of the Stuarts and the Church of England, on one side, and of the Commonwealth and Dissenters from Episcopacy, on the other, was a matter of common occurrence. Thus while some of his relatives suffered in the North from the arms of Cromwell, for their devotion to the former, Thomas Gilpin, the great nephew of Bernard, is found fighting in the ranks of the Parliamentarians at Worcester. On the restoration of the Stuarts, he did not return to the North of England, but established himself at Warborough, a rural village in the vale of the Thames, not far from Reading, where he soon exchanged his warlike disposition for the pacific tenets of the Quakers.

Their numbers and influence were then considerable in that rich and picturesque portion of England, which, spreading on both sides of the Thames from Oxford to Eton, embraces the places peculiarly interesting in the life of Penn,—Chalfont, Ruscombe, and the sequestered cemetery of Jordan's and its humble meeting-house, where Friends yet occasionally assemble, from a distance (for few, perhaps none, yet reside in the neighborhood), to hold their silent and spiritual communion, beside his unlettered grave.

JOSEPH GILPIN, the third son of Thomas Gilpin, was born at Warborough in 1664. On his marriage, in 1695, with Hannah



Glover, also of a Quaker family of the same neighborhood, she received from an uncle, as a marriage present, the gift of a tract of land in Pennsylvania, which he had himself purchased a few years before, with the intention, afterwards abandoned, of emigrating there himself. In the autumn of the following year, Joseph Gilpin, with his bride, came to Pennsylvania; and, landing at Newcastle, on the Delaware, made his way, through the country, then almost a wilderness, to their new home. Two years afterwards, he erected there a house, a portion of which still forms part of the present residence.

Here his grandson, THOMAS GILPIN, was born, on the 18th of March, 1728. His education, at that early day, and in the country then chiefly a forest, where his youth was passed, could not extend beyond reading, writing, and the common rules of arithmetic; but he acquired, while yet a youth, and by his own study, some knowledge of the higher branches of mathematics, for which and for mechanical pursuits, he evinced a natural predilection. On coming of age, he settled, as a farmer, on a small property of eighty acres, near the Susquehanna River, given to him by his father; but, being shortly afterwards adopted by an uncle, whose name he bore, he received from him the charge, and ultimately the possession, of property on the banks of the Brandywine Creek, not far from the town of Wilmington, particularly adapted to the establishment of mills. In the erection and management of these, he aided his uncle, and engaged with more congenial taste. His character early developed itself as diligent and studious; his manners were mild; his constitution, though not robust, was good; and he continued to indulge, as fully as he was able, an early love of reading, especially on subjects of science.

With his uncle's consent, in the latter part of 1752, he made a voyage to England, not only from motives of general curiosity, but especially with a view to obtain information in regard to its trade with the Colonies, that might be useful to him in entering into commercial business, which he began to contemplate. He landed at Dublin, where he remained some time, and crossed from thence to Whitehaven, in order to visit the relatives of his family residing in that part of England, by whom he was cordially received. The coal and iron mines and the potteries, then in their early develop-

ment, and the various kinds of factories, especially the use of the fire or steam engine, possessed for him particular interest; and minute descriptions of them were recorded, for use and reference on his return to America. The state and mode of trade with America, carried on at the chief ports of Lancaster, Liverpool, and Bristol, were carefully examined and noted down; and, at the latter place, where the colonial commerce was very active and large, he remained some time, and formed friendships, as well as relations of business, with some of the most eminent merchants. From Bristol he went to Berkshire and Oxfordshire, to visit that portion of his family which were settled there, and from which he was more immediately descended. He was received with affection as a relative. He visited, during a stay of ten days, all the localities connected with his ancestors; and, retaining as he did his sincere and devoted connection with the Quakers of America, he brought acceptable tidings to those of that sect who were yet scattered, in considerable numbers, in the same vicinity. Leaving his relatives, he went, as his journal records, "from Reading to London, thirty-six miles, in six hours, for six shillings." Here his journal ends, probably from the multiplicity of objects which the metropolis usually presents to a stranger; but his attention to mercantile subjects was not abated, for he continued to make many detached notes in regard to them. He returned to America in the autumn, reaching the Chesapeake Bay, on the 3d of October, 1753.

Shortly after his return, he established himself at the head of the tidewater, on Chester River, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, where facilities for trade appeared to present themselves, from the large production of wheat, Indian corn, and tobacco, on the extensive plantations in the neighborhood, and from the ready access of navigation, by means of the Chesapeake Bay. These expectations were verified. The present town of Millington was commenced by him, and gradually grew under his care; and he there pursued, for ten years, a prosperous business, interrupted only by occasional visits to Philadelphia, for objects connected with it.

The result, however, of these visits was his marriage, in 1764, with a daughter of Joshua Fisher, then a wealthy and leading Quaker merchant of Philadelphia; his transfer of the active superintendence of his establishment in Maryland to his brother; and

his permanent settlement in Philadelphia, where he formed a commercial partnership with his wife's eldest brother. The management of his property in and near Wilmington, in Delaware, which had become considerable, its convenient distance enabled him to retain.

Thus employed in business in Philadelphia, and in the care of his estates in the country, he still found leisure to seize the opportunity now afforded him of cultivating his tastes for scientific pursuits. Several associations of this nature had recently been formed in Philadelphia, in all or most of which he participated. When, in 1769, by the union of some of these, the American Philosophical Society was formed, he was one of its original members. Though the actual introduction of canal navigation in England by the Duke of Bridgewater and his engineer Brindley, did not take place till five years after his return from that country, yet it is not improbable that preliminary measures might have been commenced, and attracted his intelligent attention, when he was there. At all events, he was struck with the utility and facility of such a communication between the bays of the Chesapeake and Delaware. He now devoted himself to induce the merchants and citizens of Philadelphia to undertake its accomplishment. During the first four years of his residence there, with the assistance of a few friends whom he interested in the subject, he made thorough and careful explorations, surveys, and levels of the different routes by which it seemed most feasible to effect this communication. He prepared estimates of the probable expense, and plans sufficient for a general comparison of the advantages of each. These, in the year 1769, he laid before a meeting of the merchants and traders of Philadelphia, and eventually, at their instance, before the American Philosophical Society, so that the subject might be investigated by the scientific men connected with that institution.

On the 5th May, 1769, a committee of eight members of the Society was united with him to examine and verify his plans, estimates, and suggestions, which they proceeded to do, and to these they added an examination of the waterfalls of the Susquehanna River, with a view to the improvement of its navigation, and an exploration for roads for routes of trade between that river and the Schuylkill and Delaware. Of all these operations a report was

made on the 16th of February, 1770, accompanied by a map, the original of which is still among Thomas Gilpin's papers.

In the course of the winter, the subject was kept in the public attention by a series of publications in the journals, many, indeed most of which, were written by Thomas Gilpin. In October, 1769, in writing to Dr. Franklin, then in London, he describes these proceedings very fully, and dwells on the great advantages that would accrue to Pennsylvania and Philadelphia by accomplishing such improvements.

The papers of the American Philosophical Society, and the publications of Thomas Gilpin and of other gentlemen of congenial views, exhibit perhaps the first impulse in the Colonies, at all events in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland, of a system of internal improvement to be originated and carried out for purposes of trade by the resources of the colonists themselves.

These investigations were not, however, followed by the contemplated improvements, unless it may be in the opening of some of the proposed roads and bridges. Doubtless the main cause was the limited ability of the country; but to this was added the commencement of an important political era and of events which were already affecting the merchants of the Colonies, and were very soon to occupy their attention and energy, and to absorb every other consideration. The subject, however, lost none of its interest with Thomas Gilpin during the few remaining years of his life; and the feeling of its importance was inherited by his eldest son, who lived to see and to aid in the realization of some of his father's plans, after an interval of half a century.

Nor were these the only scientific subjects to which his attention was given, in the intervals of practical business, during the same period. Neither his tastes, nor his mode of pursuing them, may aim at the character of scientific research. The quiet tenor of his life was devoted to his mercantile business, his farms on the Chesapeake Bay, and his mills on the Brandywine. He was strongly attached to his religious faith and its requirements; anxious to reconcile them with a generous intercourse with good men, whom he had learned to love, around him, without claiming from them what he never could have relinquished himself, the liberty of an unfettered, but strictly conscientious judgment, in all



his actions and opinions. The few fragments of his domestic correspondence that yet remain show a tender and always thoughtful devotion to his wife and infant children; and some evidence of their affection never fails to wind up the labors of the day.

With these habits, it is apparent that the observations of Nature, and the inquisitive study of her laws, and the desire to call attention to them, arose from the influence of the scenes around him. On the banks of the Chesapeake he early watched the migratory movements of the herring, and followed them out with researches, showing their connection with the great Gulf Stream. In the boundless wheat fields of Maryland, Delaware, and Pennsylvania, he studied the habits of the insects, which were made more numerous and destructive by the prolific harvests and fostering suns. Among his mills on the Brandywine, and near the shallow streams of the Chesapeake shore, his early taste for machinery was constantly occupied in inventions to lessen labor, to supply the want of skilful mechanics, and to introduce the wind-mill where the streams were too scanty to afford power for some months in every year.

All these topics, and others of similar character, were brought to public notice in useful and unpretending forms. Articles in the newspapers; printed broadsides transmitted where they might be of use; notices introducing them to the American Philosophical Society; private correspondence with some friends of competent scientific attainments (and among them was Dr. Franklin), brought the subjects to their consideration; so that, while he did not pretend to class himself with the professed students of science, the utility of his labors was generally appreciated.

The town of Wilmington was only two miles from his mills on the Brandywine. It was rapidly becoming a place of very considerable trade. In its progress he evinced particular interest; he owned a dwelling-house there, and some valuable property. The merchants were generally of Quaker families and habits, and many of them readily joined him in his efforts of practical and scientific utility. The successful establishment of the College of Philadelphia induced him and a number of these friends to lay the foundation of the Wilmington College. He gave ground for the erection of college buildings, and joined in the contributions of money by



which they were speedily erected and the institution efficiently organized.

On the morning of the 2d of September, 1777, while in his store in Philadelphia, an incident occurred which altogether changed the future of his life for the few months of it which remained. He was visited at his store by three officers of the State Government of Pennsylvania, who required him to declare, in writing, that he would not depart from his dwelling-house; that he would appear on demand before the State Council; that he would refrain from doing anything injurious to the free United States of North America, by speaking, writing, or otherwise; that he would not give any intelligence to the commander of the British forces, or any other person whatever.

"I looked," he says, in a memorandum written at the time, "at the paper; I told them I had not done anything contrary to the requests, except going to my dwelling-house and store, and that I could not comply with it; and that it was not necessary to sign it, or to engage not to do a thing which I had not been doing, or was in the habit of, or likely to do. On this they said I must go before the President and Council. I told them I had rather do that than sign it, and then I should see or hear what they had against me."

He went with them to the Freemasons' Lodge, where he expected, from what they had represented to him, that the President and Council were sitting. This, however, was not the case; but he found already there a number of members of the Society of Friends, and, in the course of the day, many others were brought there,—among them two of his brothers-in-law. Here he remained for the eight following days. A guard was placed at the building, though no hardships of a harsh character appear to have been imposed, beyond those necessarily attendant upon the confinement of a large number of persons at that season of the year in a small edifice, without any arrangement for their personal comfort, and the most restricted intercourse with their families.

During these eight days, many of the most respectable merchants and traders of Philadelphia, twenty altogether, persons of large property and acknowledged probity, all, or nearly all Quakers, whose associations had been very limited with public affairs, were added to the inmates of the Freemasons' Lodge, each having

declined to sign a similar declaration. During this interval they made repeated applications, but without success, for an examination and hearing before the State Council; and finally, on the 11th of September, they were removed in wagons, by a circuitous and mountainous route, through the interior of Pennsylvania and Maryland, to Winchester, in Virginia. Winchester was already a station for the Hessian prisoners, and a guard of Continental troops had, by order of Congress, been placed there.

It is a characteristic trait in the nature of Thomas Gilpin, that, upon seeing the Hessian prisoners engaged among the farmers, he commented upon their good fortune in thus being occupied in pursuits of agriculture, when they had been purchased by the English crown for purposes of bloodshed. He remarks, in his journal, that they worked for wages at the rate of seven dollars and a half a month.

The journey from Philadelphia to Winchester had occupied nineteen days, chiefly through mountainous roads, and not unfrequently with stormy weather. The religious exercises of their Society were carefully performed by the party throughout the journey. On the evening of the 29th of September, Thomas Gilpin, with two of his brothers-in-law, was lodged at a tavern in Winchester, where he continued to reside until his death. His constitution, never strong, and very sensitive to domestic necessities, had not well borne the difficulties of the journey. No provision had been made for the comfortable accommodation of the exiles. Even their expenses they were obliged to defray themselves. They were, however, received by the Virginians with characteristic kindness, not merely by the Quakers, of whom there were some in this neighborhood, but by all; and were treated in a similar spirit during their whole stay.

It is the province of history to examine, narrate, and judge the conduct of governments; that of biography is more limited, and, except so far as events are directly connected with the conduct and life of an individual, such narrative and judgment is out of place; certainly it would be so in a biographical sketch necessarily as limited as this. Many of the acts of revolutionary times spring from impulses, mistaken perhaps in themselves, but not founded in motives wrong or unjust; others may have their foundation in such

motives, though not always apparent. So strange a proceeding as that which we have described can only be accounted for by the peculiar excitement of the times. The twenty persons who were exiled to Winchester did not, one of them, probably take any part in politics; they were of families of very early emigrants, who had kept up few or no relations with England; they were strictly, perhaps pertinaciously, wedded to the principles of their religious persuasion, especially when they believed them to be singled out for attack, or to be subjected to a time of trial; they were not among those who had enjoyed the favors of the English Government; in fact even their social associations with that class of citizens was limited by the staid character of their habits of life. Many of these very exiles afterwards showed, in the progress of the contest, in some critical emergencies, that they had no feelings of hostility to the new Government, and they were not wanting in a generous support of it, in such manner as they believed to be consistent with the principles of their religious faith. No charges were ever presented against them; and they were not allowed (though it was repeatedly requested) an examination or hearing. Indeed it is impossible to look over the list of their venerable names, many of which had been borne by the associates of Penn himself, and not feel satisfied that the course pursued towards them could not be required by any public necessity.

Such, indeed, seems to have been, after a very short interval, the general sentiment. On the 10th of March, 1778, the Minutes of Congress mention the reception of a letter from the Executive Council of Pennsylvania, stating that the affairs of the commonwealth were so circumstanced as to admit the return of the prisoners sent from that State into Virginia, without danger to the commonwealth, or to the common cause of America; that the dangerous example which their longer continuance in banishment may afford on future occasions, has already given uneasiness to some good friends of the independency of these States; and requesting, if Congress have no other reasons for continuing them in Virginia than the Council are acquainted with, that such orders might be given as should put those people again under the authority of the State of Pennsylvania. This order was given. In consequence of it, the exiles left Winchester, on the 19th of March, 1778, and

reached their homes and families in Philadelphia, on the 30th of April, 1778.

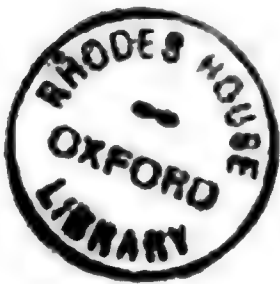
Thomas Gilpin was not among the returning exiles. He expired at Winchester, on the 2d of March preceding. Not long after he had reached Winchester, his brother George Gilpin arrived to see him. Between him and his three brothers the closest and most affectionate relations had always existed, although their course during the political movements of the times had not coincided. His eldest brother, Joseph Gilpin, who resided in Cecil County, Maryland, early expressed his opinions in favor of the revolutionary cause; and, though his sentiments, as a Quaker, prevented him from holding any military office, he filled several civil ones. Of his two younger brothers, Samuel Gilpin was a major in the Pennsylvania line, and George Gilpin was colonel of the militia of Fairfax County, Virginia; he was a neighbor and personal friend of General Washington, frequently spoken of by him, and was honored by being one of the pall-bearers at his funeral; his regiment was in active service during the war. Both of these brothers had left the communion of Friends.

To his brother George he was particularly and affectionately attached. During the six months of his residence at Winchester, his brother's visits to him were frequent, both before and after his attack of illness. In the winter, this assumed an alarming character; and, on the 19th of February, 1778, his brother George hastily returned to Winchester from Yorktown, where he had been to attend Congress and the Executive Council of Pennsylvania, on account of the exiles. From this period his decline was rapid. His friend, Israel Pemberton, has left in his journal a brief narrative of the incidents of his last days. It records, with the touching strength of unadorned truth, many of his expressions, the warmth of his domestic affections, and his piety. "The evening before his death," says the narrative of Pemberton, "a rough draught of his will was brought to him, in which it was said that 'he, with a number of others, had been unjustly banished;' he desired the expression to be erased, as it would seem to cast a reflection on the persons who had caused it. He made provision respecting two negroes whom he had purchased in order to set free: this, in regard to a boy, he directed to be done on his arriving at twenty-one; but the other, being old,



was to be supported by his estate as long as she lived. Towards the close, he said, apparently to those around him, 'There are many religions in the world, and a variety of forms, which have occasioned great persecutions, each contending it is right; but there is only one true religion, arising from faith in God and in his son Jesus Christ, and hope in his mercy, and a monitor placed in every mind, which, if we attend to, we cannot err.' He desired affectionate messages to be conveyed to his wife and children, and especially confided them to his eldest brother-in-law, Thomas Fisher, a person of excellent sense, to whom he was much attached, and who had watched him with unceasing care throughout his illness. He then desired those about him to be very still, as he hoped he should also be; after this, his breath grew shorter, and without a sigh, or groan, or any sensible emotion, he departed quietly, at half an hour after midnight.

He was interred in a small Quaker burial-ground at Hopewell, near Winchester. His funeral was surrounded with the Friends and a number of other persons from the neighborhood. He was in his fiftieth year at the time of his death. He left a widow and three children,—his sons, Joshua and Thomas, and a daughter, who died unmarried some years afterwards. They were all in Philadelphia at the time of his death.



## JOSHUA GILPIN.

JOSHUA GILPIN, the eldest son of Thomas Gilpin, was born at Philadelphia on the 8th of November, 1765. He was twelve years old when his father died, at Winchester, in Virginia.

His education was the best Philadelphia could afford. He evinced an early taste for literature. He was particularly fond of the Latin classics, which he continued habitually to read through life, and memorandums in his boyhood exhibit private efforts to perfect himself in this branch of study. Probably the natural bent of his mind was rather to historical investigation, for early written



speculations of his exist in regard to the first inhabitants and settlement of America, showing original thought. It was always his favorite exercise, unconnected with any design of publication, to preserve such inquiries when they arose in the course of his reading, or his travels. Still, prompted by a quick fancy, many of his hours were happily passed in its allurements. His poems, a considerable volume of which was written before he was eighteen, merit a place among the juvenilia of his day; sometimes translations, sometimes imitations of the popular writers. Elegy, pastoral and sonnet, remind us of Shenstone or Hammond. His taste, however, as it matured, brought back the impressions of classical literature. The style, genius, terseness, and melody of Pope, superseded these earlier fancies, and implanted in his mind a paramount admiration of that great poet.

When his profession was to be chosen, his inclinations were for the law; he pursued its earlier studies not only without repugnance but with zeal. All his relatives, however, were Quakers, and although not actually withholding themselves from that profession, the number of them found in it was not considerable. The property of his family, which was large, was situated in Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia, and of a character requiring personal supervision. He therefore relinquished all plans of professional life to devote himself to these necessary cares.

From the year 1784 to 1795, this was his occupation. When his brother came of age, he united him in a fraternal connection of business, which death alone dissolved. In everything relative to the progress and interests of Philadelphia he took a ready part. His correspondence and accidental memoranda exhibit the habits of a man of business, yet cultivating friendships with the esteemed persons of Philadelphia of his own age. There are few whom we recall as the cultivated gentlemen of that day who were not his associates.

He retained his connection with the Quaker persuasion, the principles of which he always adhered to, and the observances of which he respected; but in his manners and social habits he conformed, with moderation, to the usages of his times and friends. His sincerity in this respect was recognized in America, and afterwards in England, by those most esteemed in the Society. It is

probable his connection with it never would have ceased, had not the necessities of his commercial engagements required, in the war that raged on the ocean, a deviation from some of its stricter forms. In the year 1795, he had attained the age of thirty; his business had been successful; his mother was in excellent health, surrounded by her connections; so that nothing prevented his gratifying a wish, for some time cherished, to visit Europe.

He sailed for England in 1795, and did not return to America till 1801. This period was principally passed in England, with visits to Scotland and Ireland, and a tour on the continent.

On his arrival in England he found himself no stranger. He was already known to many eminent bankers and merchants, especially of the Society of Friends. Several of his own countrymen, then in London, received him with open arms. Mr. West, the painter, then President of the Royal Academy, and in the zenith of his fame, was a relative nearly connected; and with him and Mrs. West he was from the first affectionately domesticated. Mr. Penn, Mr. Fulton, and Count Rumford he had intimately known in America.

The English representatives of his own family welcomed him as a connection. The Reverend William Gilpin at his lovely vicarage of Boldre, in a picturesque portion of Hampshire, realized as much of piety and taste as can adorn the life of a cultivated English country clergyman. His writings on pious topics, especially his "Lives of the English Reformers," possess unaffected charms; his descriptions of various parts of England, Scotland, and Wales, given at intervals after successive autumnal tours, and limited solely to picturesque description, illustrated with slight touches of local legends, and sketches etched and colored by himself, led the way, perhaps, in that charming class of literature. From the profits of these books he built and endowed the free schools which yet adorn his rural parish. He no sooner knew of the arrival of his American relative, than he received him as a son, and so treated him during his stay in Europe.

Mr. Gilpin soon found associations to gratify his tastes. He had always been fond of scientific subjects and the development of the useful arts. The great and various manufactures of England, in their practical development, were a new treat to his curiosity.

Among the sciences, he had always liked mineralogy ; and from his arrival in Europe, he intended to collect a cabinet of specimens to take with him to America, which he did. It contained results of his own collections, from the extremities of the British Islands to the Swiss mountains ; and friends of congenial tastes increased his stores. He made notes on almost every great manufacture of England, especially the mining of Cornwall and the metallurgy of Wales. He studied at Coalbrookdale the early developments in the vast utilities of iron. He inspected with Brindley, the able engineer (with whom he continued intimate through life), all the great works, canals, aqueducts, and bridges, connected with internal navigation ; and he enjoyed the rich privilege of personal intercourse with Mr. Boulton, at Soho.

In London he found no less gratification for his other tastes. Many well-known names run through his familiar notes and letters. Mitford, the historian, was an attached pupil of the Vicar of Boldre ; the lively and inquisitive benevolence of Wilberforce eagerly caught every authentic incident of rising American and especially Philadelphian philanthropy ; Sir Joseph Banks was the ready friend of every cultivated stranger ; the feelings of Roscoe, literary and social, sympathized with the young republican, and grew into a lasting intercourse ; Lord Stanhope received with interest into his family circle, at Chevening, one who could communicate to his active mind, information on the progress of American government and industrial art.

But in that great world, he owed yet more to a few friends, who united to social position and refined minds a warm and affectionate friendship for himself.

Charles Baron de Montesquieu, the grandson and representative of the great philosopher, had been driven in the Reign of Terror from the chateau of La Brède, which, in a lovely vale a few miles from Bordeaux, presented then, as now, all the external appearance of a medieval castle, its drawbridges and battlements ; but inside the neatness and taste of a home of letters ; while a park around gave evidence that the great philosopher had not, while in England, overlooked picturesque rural adornment, then seldom found in France. Aided by some faithful peasants, he escaped to England, when the guillotine was a fountain of blood in the beautiful square

of Bordeaux, and no virtue could insure the life of a French noble. This excellent gentleman, of refined manners and modest bearing, went to London, and resided there until his death. He married an English lady of some fortune, and their united means enabled them to live with refinement, but without ostentation, in London, during part of the year, and the rest in a country retreat in Kent. To this charming family, by a fortunate circumstance, he became early known, and, during the whole of his residence in England, he enjoyed with them the affectionate intercourse of a relative.

A concurrence in a taste for botany led to an acquaintance with a gentleman of London, who liked to add to his knowledge of the flora of America, all he could glean, even from an unscientific naturalist. Mr. Charles Greville, the brother of the Earl of Warwick, made, on this account, Mr. Gilpin's acquaintance. He was unmarried, of accomplished manners, and cultivated mind. In a position where all that was to be desired, either in social or intellectual life, was at his command. He was the nephew of Sir William Hamilton, and participated in his enthusiastic love of art, and, during the absences of Sir William, was an agent in his plans. Between him and Mr. Gilpin there existed the warmest personal friendship.

Mr. Stanley, who became some years after Lord Stanley of Alderley, had made a remarkable voyage to Iceland to examine the rich stores of mineralogy in that island; his collections, and an admirable account of his voyage, attracted the notice of the scientific world. They led to an intimacy with Mr. Gilpin. Mr. Stanley, in addition to his own attractive qualities, was married to a young lady whose charms of person and disposition are handed down to us by a pen that cannot flatter, for she was the "sprightly Maria," daughter of Lord Sheffield, of whom Gibbon, in the abandon of his closest correspondence, is never tired of speaking. Into this household, at London and at Alderley, the stranger (after a probation not long) was received; and tokens of friendship, which continued while he staid in England, were not unfrequent in after years. With these associations, nothing was wanting to gratify Mr. Gilpin while in England.

It had been his desire, scarcely less strong, to make a tour of the same kind on the Continent of Europe. Unfortunately, the state



of the times postponed this. When he arrived in England, the false gloss of years of atrocious despotism had been succeeded in France by the horrors of the Reign of Terror, then coming to its close. The Continent of Europe still seethed like a dreadful caldron. At length the establishment of a more regular Republican Government gave hope that tranquillity and rational liberty had arrived. In 1797, the supremacy of the Directory, supported by the army, and especially the vigorous genius of the young General Bonaparte, assured to the stranger personal security at least. Society, and many objects of interest, however, were indeed rudely broken, and a tour must necessarily be one of passing observation.

Mr. Gilpin left England in the autumn of 1797, and returned towards the end of the next year. He travelled through Holland and the Low Countries, and then staid a month in Paris. Early in 1798 he travelled through France. His journey embraced the most beautiful portion of that beautiful country. Passing by easy stages through the lovely valleys of the Loire and the Cher, he reached Bordeaux, where, with excursions to the Pyrenees, he lingered for six weeks. His reception as a friend of the Baron de Montesquieu made it his home in France. From Bordeaux he travelled to Marseilles, having at every step an object of great interest to him in the grand canal, parallel to his route, which, with all its magnificent wonders of engineering, brought together the waters of the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. To those who have seen the incomparable beauties of Languedoc in the fulness of the spring, the pleasure of such a journey need not be described. He lingered at Montpellier only, it would appear, for the enjoyment of the luxurious season. In a few days he had a new source of happiness in the exquisite and wonderful remains of classic antiquity which burst upon him at Nismes and its neighborhood. After a short stay at Marseilles, he turned his course to Provence, Dauphiné, and Lyons. At Avignon and Vacluse; at the shrine of Petrarch,—not Laura's lover alone, but the bright spirit who was the harbinger of the dawn, after the long and gloomy night of mediæval darkness,—he was a willing lingerer. Every spot connected with his name, by means of his sonnets and his letters, was sought for with a curious eye, which at that time was aided by few,



almost by none, of the minute descriptions which our own times afford. His journey was continued along the borders of Savoy to Lyons, and from there, by the glorious passes of the Jura, he came on the Lake of Geneva, and realized, for the first time, Switzerland and the Alps. Geneva was the only place at which he stopped in Switzerland. In addition to its own attractions, he found there a friend, with whom he formed a closer attachment than any since he had left England. Mr. De Saussure treated him with a kindness which was evinced from time to time up to the close of his life. This opened to him every gratification, intellectual and social, that Geneva could afford; he explored the most interesting portions of the Alpine scenery; and crossing the great passes into Lombardy, he visited, with congenial delight, a portion of its classic scenes. Although it prolonged somewhat the period at which he had fixed his return, he made his way back, through Western Germany and along the Rhine, to England.

Of the whole of this tour he kept a minute journal; not of its scenery and personal incidents alone, but of everything which he observed in connection with social and political life, as it then existed, and the industrial resources, habits, and progress of every locality through which he passed. Especially did he dwell on the agriculture of central and southern France. The vine, the olive, silk, and the productions of each climate, which everywhere give such picturesque attraction, found also for him a deeper interest in the hope that they would be transplanted to America. An abstract among his papers seems to make it certain that he contemplated a work illustrating what he had seen; less in the form of a narrative than in a view of the actually existing political and social institutions; the state of commerce and industry; and the abundant and fortunate promises of the future. This work never was written.

In one small volume, however, printed in London, not long after his return, he left a pleasing description of his favorite scene in Provence. He described in poetry what he saw at the Fountain of Vaucluse, and he wrote, in a clear and careful abstract, a description of it, illustrated from local tradition and the writings and letters of Petrarch. He also composed a poem, not unlike it, descriptive of the birthplace and farm of Virgil, on the Mincio. This he did

not publish, though it was printed many years afterwards, in a small volume of fugitive poetry, which he thought might interest the immediate circle of his relatives and friends.

An event soon after occurred, which altogether changed the character of his pursuits in England. In July, 1800, he married Miss Mary Dilworth, the daughter of a banker at Lancaster. This prolonged his stay there until the autumn of 1801, the interval being passed among the connections he thus formed, and also among his friends in London, who welcomed him in his new relation with fresh and affectionate interest.

In the autumn of 1801 he returned to Philadelphia. His return, after so long an absence, made happy his mother, yet in vigorous health; and the additional object and bond of affection which he brought with him, cheered her deepest sensibilities. His brother had grown to manhood. In the circle of his relations and friends few incidents had occurred to pain him. His business had become more concentrated; the progress of manufactures, and the great capacity of the works on the Brandywine, had led to their enlargement, and the increase of their objects; paper especially was made there on a large scale.

In America, the organization of the new Government, and the war on the sea among trading nations, made Philadelphia a centre of commercial enterprise. His own establishment, founded before he went away, was prepared for this change; and, from 1801 to 1811, these two objects formed the business of himself and his brother.

In all the relations of social life, and in all the institutions of literature, science, and taste in Philadelphia, he participated. To these he added one object of particular interest to him. The early efforts of his father for a navigable communication from the Delaware to the Chesapeake, had always dwelt in his mind, and his interests and connections in Delaware and Maryland added to this. The subject was already renewed in the thoughts of the citizens of Philadelphia, and he found sanguine coadjutors. A large sum of money was speedily subscribed; the work was executed to a considerable extent, but the expense proved beyond the estimate, and the work after two years was suspended. His personal exertions

and his pen were strenuously used to obtain aid from the General and State Governments, but without success.

American commerce during the few following years was depressed, and nearly closed by the audacious measures of the belligerent powers of Europe. This branch of his own pursuits almost ceased to exist; and the attention of himself, and especially his brother, who had always preferred it, was mainly turned to their manufacturing establishment on the Brandywine. Their commercial engagements in Philadelphia were not, however, finally closed until the year 1817.

On the estate on the Brandywine, at no great distance from the mills, was a site of remarkably picturesque beauty, upon which, from boyhood, his thoughts had been fixed as the residence of his later years. To such a life his wife, now surrounded by a family, looked forward with equal delight. They determined to build a house there, and to make it their future home. Before doing so, they paid a visit to their relatives in England. From this period until his death, more than twenty years afterwards, Kentmere on the Brandywine was his home. In the cultivation of an enlarged social intercourse, in the treasures of an excellent library, surrounded by a rural scene of great picturesque beauty, with a farm quite adequate to occupy his attention, engaged in the education of his children, life wore peacefully on. He had unfortunately the drawback of some years of ill health, but this, if it lessened his activity, never impaired his real enjoyments.

From this life he was tempted to withdraw but once. A third effort was made by the citizens of Philadelphia for the construction of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal. Twenty years had passed away since the last abortive effort, and he was almost the only depository of what had been done. His counsel and information were sought, and of course given; he published a work succinctly communicating them to the public; and, when solicited to accept the place of a director, he assented with the reservations which his years and his infirmities required. He occupied the post till the completion of the great work, honorable to Philadelphia as a magnificent structure, and of special interest to him, as it realized the hopes and suggestions his father made nearly a century before.

His days were peacefully and happily closed in his seventy-fifth

year; though infirm and in delicate health, he never ceased to enjoy cheerful society. His mind was so tranquil, and his intellect so clear, that he conversed, with all the sensibility of a pious and affectionate nature, until his breath could be no longer perceived by the group who were gathered around him.

His wife survived him; he had seven children; his sons were Henry D. Gilpin, of Philadelphia; Thomas W. Gilpin, many years Consul at Belfast; Richard A. Gilpin, whose farm in Chester County is close to that of his emigrant ancestor; and Colonel William Gilpin, of Missouri, who served in the army of the United States during the Florida and Mexican Wars.

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## THOMAS GILPIN.

THOMAS GILPIN, the second son of Thomas Gilpin, of Philadelphia, was born on the 10th of September, 1776, and died at Philadelphia on the 3d of March, 1853. He was quite an infant when his father died, and his education devolved upon his mother. His elder brother, who was eleven years older, was able largely to contribute to it. He was educated in the best schools of the Society of Friends. He early evinced a remarkable fondness for mathematics and the sciences connected with them, and all branches of the mechanic arts. At a very early period of his boyhood, he attained great facility in the delineation of all such illustrations; and the beauty of his penmanship and drawing was quite remarkable. He understood and easily reduced difficult problems of perspective, navigation and trigonometry in all its branches. Of astronomy he was particularly fond. His perfect familiarity with the phenomena of the heavens, the love with which he watched, and the clearness with which he described the movements of the stellar system, were exhibited in his earliest youth, and continued until the day of his death. Many of the nights of his far-advanced years were most happily passed in vigils among the stars. With the construction of all instruments connected with astronomy he was well acquainted; indeed for all mechanic inventions and con-



trivances he had a passion; and, as the application of these in various forms and to various arts became constantly necessary in the business of his future life, this strong predilection was of the greatest service to him. When his elder brother went to Europe he was nineteen years of age. His practical business education had been very thorough. Destined to be his brother's partner, he had made himself well acquainted with all their affairs; the commercial business in Philadelphia, then limited in extent, he was already able mainly to take charge of; but the works on the Brandywine were the favorite object of his attention; he introduced there particularly the manufacture of paper, and brought it to a perfection which gave it great celebrity. He constantly communicated with his brother in England in regard to all the improvements in that art, as indeed in all the industrial arts. Upon his brother's return from Europe, in 1801, he found him a matured man of business.

At this time the prosperous commerce of the United States naturally led their thoughts most to their commercial business in Philadelphia, though the works on the Brandywine were preserved in full efficiency; when, ten years after, the disasters brought by foreign powers upon the neutral commerce of the United States, induced them to abandon almost altogether that pursuit, they redoubled their exertions on the Brandywine. The war with England gave a great impulse to all branches of manufactures, and Thomas Gilpin covered the water-power on the Brandywine with large structures for wool and cotton, in addition to those of paper, which continued in their previous perfection.

The well-known reverses which befell, in a few years, the manufacturing establishments of the United States, produced disastrous effects on these large works, and seemed to render it expedient to suspend them until better times should come. Thomas Gilpin determined in this emergency to augment the paper works. So far, in the United States, all such works had been conducted upon the ancient system; but, in England, considerable advances had been made by the introduction of machinery, which produced paper from a cylinder in an endless sheet. Every publication on this subject he had carefully noted with a thoroughly practised mind and eye; he had availed himself of all the published drawings ex-



plaining the parts of the new machinery; and he believed, after two years of careful study, that he could construct a machine which, if not exactly similar to, or as perfect as those of England, would enable him to produce, in the United States, paper from a cylinder. This effort, as might be supposed, was attended with infinite trouble, but ended in success. In the month of February, 1817, when he sent to Philadelphia paper cut from a continuous sheet, Poulson's "Daily Advertiser," a principal gazette of the city, was printed upon it. Messrs. Mathew Carey & Son, the largest publishers of Philadelphia, were then preparing an edition of the "Historical Atlas of Lavoisne;" it appeared in 1821, printed on the paper made by Thomas Gilpin's machine.

The success of this experiment gave new encouragement to Mr. Gilpin, and he continued for several years to make successive improvements, so that it superseded altogether his other machinery, and promised a result not less valuable to the arts than remunerative of the years of anxious labor that the work had cost him, and the large expense he had incurred.

But this result was not realized. In the spring of the year 1822, a flood of unprecedented violence and magnitude occurred on the Brandywine. Though the building in which this costly machinery was erected had been placed, it was believed, beyond all possibility of danger from such a cause, and had been guarded by every precaution which anxiety and mechanical skill could suggest, the flood rose to the top of the building. For two days the whirling torrent swept along with fearful turbulence, and when the water at length subsided, the edifice itself was a mass of ruins. Buried beneath these, the fragments of machinery, broken into shapeless parts, could hardly be recognized, and the costly portions, framed with necessary delicacy and minuteness, had totally disappeared; the labor of years had vanished in a moment; the expenditure of thousands of dollars was as abortive as if it never had been made.

Advanced in years, Mr. Gilpin looked upon the wreck of his exertions and the injury to his fortunes, not indeed with despondency, but with a certainty that he could not hope to replace what was thus so suddenly lost.

From that time he made Philadelphia his residence, and he resumed, to a considerable extent, his commercial business. This

had been almost totally abandoned when he devoted himself to his occupations on the Brandywine. He continued to pursue it until some years before his death.

The subsequent interval he occupied with pursuits always congenial to his tastes. He indulged his never obliterated love of science, and he found in the institutions of Philadelphia a constant source of recreation and interest. Though not frequently employing his pen in formal communications to scientific bodies, he constantly participated in their proceedings, and united in their discussions. In this he always indicated, in manner and in language, a remarkable moderation and distrust of his own opinions; even on topics on which his knowledge could not be otherwise than great.

In the year 1850, he collected a number of documents, many of them not previously published, connected with the banishment, in 1776, of several of the Quakers of Philadelphia, among whom was his father, to Winchester, in Virginia. These he published in an octavo volume. In such occupations the closing years of his life were passed. Philadelphia and its neighborhood had been his home from his birth. His nature was social, his temper singularly cheerful, and his manners and conversation winning. He was in the midst of friends to whom these qualities made him attractive, while they supplied him with the resources and occupations he most desired for his declining years. He expired at Philadelphia, after a short illness, without pain, in his seventy-seventh year.

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## STEPHEN GIRARD.

BY FRANKLIN PEALE AND STEPHEN SIMPSON.

STEPHEN GIRARD was born on the 20th May, 1750. He was the grandson of Jean Girard, captain, master, patron, and pilot. His father was Pierre Girard, captain and ship owner, who distinguished himself in 1744, by saving a ship of the line from destruction by a fire-ship, sent by the English against the squadron at Brest; for

which service he was knighted by Louis XV (*Lire donna L'Epie*), who also ordered a medal of gold to be struck and given to him, and his name to be inscribed upon the Register of the Admiralty de Paris (all on record in Bordeaux and Paris).

He left his home at the age of eleven years, against his father's will, who was opposed to any of his children continuing the maritime habits of the family; and on account of discontent with his stepmother, his father having contracted a second marriage.

His brothers, John Girard and Etienne Girard, were highly educated. The first was a merchant and ship-owner, frequently sailing with his captain, and transacting mercantile business in various parts of the world,—particularly the West Indies, where he owned a considerable landed estate.

Etienne Girard, in the second year of the French republic, was the Secretary-General of the District of Bordeaux, and filled other and most respectable official positions.

Mr. Girard returned to France, on a visit, in 1778, as appears by a letter from him to his brother, John Girard, dated April 8th, 1778. His first voyage was to the West Indies; thence he went to New York, and sailed for some years between there and the West Indies and New Orleans, as a cabin-boy, sailor, mate, and eventually master and owner. Having made some money, he started a small shop in North Water Street, Philadelphia, in 1769, and about the spring of 1779, married a pretty girl, the daughter of a caulker. He lived with her about eleven years; this appears by his brother John Girard's notice of it, in a letter, dated March 8th, 1779. The evidence is that he was very kind to her, by changing the scene for her benefit, in travelling, and would have sent her to France, under the care of his brother John. This was previous to her admission to the Pennsylvania Hospital, in August, 1790, where she died, in September, 1815. An only child died in infancy.

After his marriage, he continued business in Water Street, occasionally going as master of his own ships or vessels,—in one of which he was captured, on a voyage to St. Domingo. He came home poor, and started a little cider and wine bottling shop, in Water Street. He was a friend to the Revolution, and removed to Mount Holly while the British occupied Philadelphia. About the year 1782, he took, on a lease, a number of stores on Water Street,

which proved a profitable operation ; and afterwards went into business with his brother, Captain John Girard, who came out from France. He had resided in St. Domingo, where he had an estate, which he called Moubran. Many of his letters are dated and addressed from Cape François. He came from that place to the United States. They drove a profitable trade with St. Domingo ; and, at their dissolution (for they could not agree), John was worth \$60,000, and Stephen, \$30,000.

Stephen Girard lost the sight of one eye, by accident, when he was twelve years of age. After the separation from his brother, he went largely into the St. Domingo trade ; and, while a brig and schooner of his were lying at Cape François, the great revolt of the negroes occurred. Many planters, in the panic, removed their valuables on board his vessels, and, again returning to the shore, were cut off by the negroes. Whole families thus perished together ; and Mr. Girard, by the most extensive advertising, could never ascertain the heirs of the wealth (said to be about \$50,000 or \$60,000) that thus fell into his hands. His next commercial enterprises were in the East India trade, in which he had several ships, and acquired a large fortune. At the expiration of the charter of the old United States Bank, in 1810–11, he purchased, through the Barings, in London, about \$500,000 of that stock ; and, not long afterwards, purchasing the banking-house of the institution, in South Third Street, and, making arrangements with the former cashier, Mr. George Simpson, he started his own private bank, in May, 1812, with a capital of \$1,200,000. This was a bold step at the opening of the war with Great Britain ; yet the specie was never refused for a bank note of Stephen Girard. When the new United States Bank was started, in 1816, he waited until the last moment before the subscription books closed, and then, inquiring if all that wished had subscribed, he coolly took the balance of the stock, amounting to \$3,100,000,—some of which he afterwards parted with. By the subsequent rise of this stock his fortune was immensely augmented. His own bank was continued until his death, when it had accumulated a capital of \$4,000,000. The bank was afterwards chartered by the Legislature as the Girard Bank, with individual stockholders. Mr. Girard



died of influenza, on the 26th December, 1831, at his residence, in Water above Market Street.

Stephen Girard was exceedingly plain in his dress and personal appearance; and, in middle life, might be mistaken for a stout sailor; and, in maturer years, for a plain old farmer. His dwelling-house was under the same roof with his counting-house, in Water Street,—a neighborhood occupied entirely by stores. His house was furnished without regard to cost, in the most expensive style, and best materials; Italian marble floors, mantels, and table-tops, and ornamented with statuary; the floors covered with Turkey and Brussels carpets, from the attics to the kitchen; and his drawing-room furniture, made in Paris, in the best style of the day. The house was always kept in the best and neatest manner; and, when the period at which he built and furnished is remembered, it might have been considered a pattern of comfort, if not of luxury.

His horses, pigeons, and all domestic animals, were of the best breeds, and kept in the best manner. He disregarded all show and pretension; but, in all matters that regarded utility and quality, no pains or expense were spared by him. This fact is particularly illustrated by the solid and substantial manner in which all his buildings were erected and executed.

The finest of fruits and vegetables were the result of his personal attention to their cultivation, in which he took great pleasure, and which, consequently, occupied almost the whole of his leisure time.

Few persons were as scrupulously neat and cleanly in their personal habits as Mr. Girard; and, although careless of the fashion of his habiliments, their quality and material were of the best, and without regard to price.

He could not be called an unsocial man. He had, during the course of his long life, many friends,—some of whom remained, during their lives, in intimate relations with him,—among whom may be named Dr. Monges, Mr. Thomas Haskins, and Mr. Robert-jot; and his fondness for children, and their welfare, is fully proved by the number he educated, and whose interest, in after-life, he fostered and promoted.

His table was liberally supplied; and, in early years, noted for the abundance and perfection of the supplies,—not only from his own farms and gardens, but from foreign sources,—his extensive



commercial connections being so widely spread, and his judgment and skill unsurpassed. The finest of wines and segars and fruits were in common use; and, although a generous liver in early life, becoming abstemious in advanced age (perhaps peculiar), he never expected his household to follow his example in this respect.

Mr. Girard, being a self-reliant man, gave himself no trouble as to the world's opinion of his birth, parentage, or education; but he repaired his early neglect and deprivation by careful reading in mature life. He possessed and read the classical writers of France, and was familiar with the general literature of the day. That he had elevated views of the importance of education is demonstrated by many acts during life, and confirmed by his testamentary disposition of his property.

He gave to his niece, Caroline Lallemand, \$20,000. His memory was so much impaired in the latter years of his life, that many important business obligations were forgotten, and some of his relations entirely overlooked, in the disposition, by will, of his property.

His equipage was a one-horse chaise and a full-blooded horse. He had a sort of instinctive fondness for giving medical advice; and when the yellow fever desolated the city, in 1793, regardless of danger, he spent his whole time in personal attendance upon the sick. His temper was irritable, and when excited he would break out upon his dependants, in his broken English, with great volubility.

He was seldom or never moved to acts of pecuniary charity; and because he was interred in a Catholic cemetery, no clergyman attended his funeral. Yet, in his darling pursuit, the accumulation of wealth, he exhibited gigantic powers. Still he did not idolize, nor spend it upon his own gratification; but his greatest delight was to see it usefully employed. His ships and houses were always neatly and substantially built; but ornament he disliked. While living, he gave away moderate sums for public objects, but seldom so much as \$1000 at a time. He once encouraged Samuel Coates, a shrewd Quaker, to call on him next day for some aid needed by the Pennsylvania Hospital, and if he found him on the right footing, he might give him something. Samuel came at breakfast time. "Well, what have you come for, Samuel?" "Any-

thing thee pleases, Stephen." Girard gave him a check for \$200, which Samuel stuffed into his pocket without looking at it. "What! you no look at the check I gave you?" "No, Stephen: beggars must not be choosers." "Hand me back the check again," demanded Girard. "No, no, Stephen,—a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." "By George!" exclaimed Girard, "you have caught me on the right footing." He then drew a check for \$500, and presenting it to Mr. Coates, asked him to look at it. "Well, to please thee, Stephen, I will." "Now give me back the first check," demanded Girard, which was instantly complied with. Few understood him, however, as well as Samuel Coates.

Of his immense wealth, estimated variously at from six to eight millions, he bequeathed a few very moderate legacies to his relatives,—to no one more than \$20,000, except to his niece, Mrs. Hemphill, to whom he left \$60,000; to the Pennsylvania Hospital, \$30,000; to other public charities various sums, from \$20,000 downwards; to the city of New Orleans a considerable amount of real estate in Louisiana; to the State of Pennsylvania, \$300,000, to be expended in improvement by canal navigation; and the great bulk of his fortune he bestowed upon the city of Philadelphia, in trust; \$500,000 to be expended in opening, widening, and improving a street along the Delaware (called Delaware Avenue), in front of the city, and also to widen Water Street; sundry residuary sums to improve the police of the city, and promote the health and comfort of the inhabitants; and to his great and favorite object, \$2,000,000, or more if necessary, to build and endow a college for the education of "poor white male orphans," as many as "the said income shall be adequate to maintain; to be received between the ages of six and ten years, and to be bound out between the ages of fourteen and eighteen to suitable occupations, as those of agriculture, navigation, arts, mechanical trades, and manufactures."

We have found, since writing the foregoing, from the original record of the marriages and deaths, kept by the officials of St. Paul's (Episcopal) Church, Philadelphia, that on the "6th day of June, 1777, Stephen Girard was married to Mary Lum, by the Rev. Dr. Samuel Magaw."

## CHRISTIAN GOBRECHT.

CHRISTIAN GOBRECHT was born December 23d, 1785, in Hanover, a town in York County, Pennsylvania. He was the sixth son of John Christopher Gobrecht, a native of the village of Augerstein, near Gottingen, Landgraviate of Hesse, who emigrated to America in 1753, and afterwards became a distinguished clergyman of the German Reformed Church in Pennsylvania.

At an early age, Mr. Christian Gobrecht exhibited great mechanical ability, and evinced a taste for drawing and design; he was consequently apprenticed to a clockmaker living at Manheim, Lancaster County. His master, however, dying a short time after, he was released from his indenture, and, removing to Baltimore, pursued the course evidently marked out for him, guided by no other teacher but himself. The ornamental work, name of maker, &c., in the inside of clocks and watches, probably induced him to cultivate engraving; and, after passing several years in the making of clock-faces, that business was entirely abandoned for the more congenial occupation of an engraver. His progress in this art was gradual; and, commencing with the simple work of cutting headings for newspapers and punches for type foundry, he became, in time, a writing and seal engraver, and finally a die-sinker.

About the year 1811, Mr. Gobrecht removed permanently to Philadelphia, where his principal pursuit was that of a bank note writing engraver; he, however, as opportunities offered, engraved seals, calico printers' rolls, bookbinders' dies for embossing morocco, dies for striking brass ornaments for military equipments, and also executed several medals. In 1836, in consequence of the contemplated change in the devices on the American coin, he was appointed Die-sinker in the United States Mint, which office he filled until his death, which event occurred July 23d, 1844, he having attained the age of fifty-eight years and seven months.

Of his labors as an artist and a mechanic, the following are the principal results:—

**THE MEDAL-RULING MACHINE.**—This is a machine so arranged,

that while one point is tracing a line across the face of a medal, rising and falling according to the elevations and depressions over which it passes, another point draws on a flat surface, a profile of this line. If now the tracer be made to move successively in a series of parallel and equidistant planes over the whole surface of the medal, there will be thus drawn a series of profiles corresponding to the sections of these planes with the surface, and these lines will together form a drawing or engraving of the medal itself.

Such an instrument was invented and executed, in 1817, by Mr. Gobrecht. In this instrument the "tracing point" moved across the medal in parallel lines, perpendicular to the flat surface or table of the medal, and the profile lines were drawn on an etching-ground, laid on copper or steel by the "etching point." The first engraving made was of a head of the Emperor Alexander I, of Russia, and the effect was very striking, and excited great attention. Mr. Gobrecht did not, however, present any other specimens ruled by his machine, as he became discouraged, in consequence of an apparently irremediable defect in his instrument: the ruled engraving exhibiting a distortion of the features, not indeed very perceptible in copies from medals in low relief, but from those in high relief quite offensive. He consequently abandoned his invention. But the machine, after being improved by others, and the distortion obviated, by a most ingenious device, founded on the mathematical principles of projection, has been used with eminent success, and has proved a valuable assistant to the fine arts.

MEDALS.—Head of Charles Wilson Peale, one and one-quarter inches in diameter.

Medal of New England Society for Promotion of Manufactures, &c., two and one-half inches diameter. Obverse.—Head of Archimedes. Reverse.—Steamboat, cotton-gin, and nail-making machine, in three small ovals.

Medal of Franklin Institute, two inches diameter. Head of Franklin. Of this head, Mr. John Neagle, in a letter to the engraver, speaks as follows: "I am delighted with it, and as a specimen of art, am proud to acknowledge it from the hands of a friend. I had an opportunity of giving it a severe test by comparing it in one hand, with the same head by the celebrated Duprè in the other, and it gives me great pleasure to say that, in my



opinion, it surpasses the other very far in merit. Yours has more of the genuine character of our great philosopher and statesman. I could point out many great beauties over the other, and many more truths in yours, but I forbear till I have the pleasure of seeing you."

Head of Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, two inches diameter. Of this medal, Mr. Carroll's grandson writes as follows: "The impressions of the dies you sent me were very much admired by every one at a dinner given on the birthday of my grandfather, and pronounced excellent. Mr. R. Gilmore says the execution of it is superior to the one he had executed in Europe."

Medal Massachusetts Mechanics' Charitable Association, one and one-half inches diameter. Device: Female figure sitting and instructing a youth, scattered around screw, lever, wheel, and axle, &c.

Seal of Pennsylvania Hospital, steel, two inches in diameter. Device: The Good Samaritan. In the centre, the wounded man seated on the ass, with his right arm over the Samaritan's shoulder and supported by him; in front of the ass the innkeeper with his arms extended and holding the sick man's left arm. The face of the die is engraved to represent the front of the inn.

Mr. Gobrecht executed in brass the dies for embossing the morocco covers for the Boston Token from 1831 to 1836, and a die of Trinity Church, Boston, for the cover of a Paragraph Bible. Also a large eagle with expanded wings for a Philadelphia Token, and a fanciful design first used by himself for a card, and afterwards, with the lettering taken out, for a book cover. Of the many seals in brass none are of general interest except a seal with the heads of Drs. Physick, Wistar, and Rush, in profile, and a seal with an engraving of St. Andrew's Church upon it. Of Mr. Gobrecht's services in effecting the change of device on the coin, too high an estimate can hardly be made. When it is taken into consideration that, in the position of engraver under Government, the judgment and experience of the artist is controlled and frequently overruled by suggestions almost amounting to commands; that devices are contemplated appropriate for medals, but inappropriate for coins, and impracticable from the mechanical difficulties arising from the necessary rapidity of coining; that the opinions of a large number



of persons must be consulted, and the various tastes of the public satisfied, the mere fact that a new coinage has been received with general commendation, is ample proof of the patient industry and skilful genius of him who under all these restraints has presented a creditable specimen of his art. In the history of the coinage of this country, the period during which Mr. Gobrecht was engraver, will not readily be forgotten.

In addition to his skill as engraver, Mr. Gobrecht was no less ingenious in other branches. Although no performer on any instrument he was a scientific musician, and constructed two musical instruments on the principle of the melodeon, but long before that instrument was thought of. He also devised a speaking doll, about the time Maelzel's puppets were exciting attention. A camera-lucida with steel mirrors, by which one part of the eye received, by reflection, the impression of the object, and another part the *direct* impression of the pencil and paper beneath, without the interposition of any foreign medium, was constructed by him, and is a neat and useful instrument.

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## THOMAS GODFREY.

It is painful to know that the fate of genius has become a standing theme with the historian or biographer. Trite and familiar, however, as are the reflections which present themselves, yet, every instance of the melancholy destiny, on earth, of some of the gifted children of lofty aspirations and impulses, will always beget a due share of sorrowful regret. It must needs be that sympathy should be awakened for the untoward fortunes of those who lived neglected; struggling, perhaps, with the evils of penury, or the cruelty of ignorant prejudice, and dying without the cheering consciousness that the world hereafter would honor their names, or even know that they once lived.

But, if sensibilities, so honorable to our nature, are mournfully experienced in the breast, when a neglect in properly estimating or encouraging merit is perceived, of what nature should be our

emotions when an instance of deliberate and positive injury to a benefactor of mankind is wantonly perpetrated? It is, in most instances, that these favored sons of an inward "mystic fire" expend the mighty energies of their spirit's power in securing for themselves some share of fame or renown,—careless of the worldly tribute which a pecuniary recompense might afford. It is, that they may be honored among men, and their names be held in homage by succeeding generations, that they struggle against the thousand evils of life, indifferent as to its necessities or comforts. They toil for glory; and meteor though it may be, yet the impulse is a noble one; for the motive is not mingled with baser dross, nor tainted with the meaner springs to human action. And when that is reached, for which they have more earnestly labored than mortals have ever labored for earthly gain; to secure which, repose would not be sought, though Nature called, and made, perhaps, a premature death the penalty of disobedience to her commands; and for which much, if not all that sweetens life, was cast away, because the throbbing soul would not be arrested in her career,—when thus made their own, and then to lose it by injustice, is a case so deeply marked with cruelty, that the most stoical must sympathize in the decision awarded by a world which is not worthy of those who were its ornaments and praise.

Such was the melancholy fate of him whose name stands at the head of this article. Having succeeded in bringing to perfection an improvement in one of the most useful instruments in navigation, and lessening the dangers of the mariner, he was deprived of the merit of his invention, and suffered to die in comparative obscurity. He had achieved a triumph in science; and, by his genius, had secured a benefit to the world. But the result of his laborious investigations, of the long toil of his mind, was not only neglect, but the bitter mortification of knowing that another, who deserved it not, enjoyed the favor which belonged to him, and bore away the proud honors, which himself had won, for an immortality of fame.

Indeed, everything about and around Godfrey, in respect to his life and fortunes, is singularly remarkable and unfortunate. Although known to many scientific gentlemen, who were his contemporaries, yet of his origin, or even of the time of his death, no dis-

tinct account is given. He was born in the city of Philadelphia, and followed the business of a glazier for some period of his life. In this humble occupation, however, he contrived, through a close application to mathematics and astronomy, to make himself worthy of the notice of Dr. Franklin, the Hon. James Logan, Secretary of the Province, Dr. William Smith, and others, who could appreciate his talents, and estimate aright his acquisitions. The first named of the above gentlemen was, for a time, an intimate of the family of Godfrey; and, in his interesting autobiography, states that he was the inventor of the Quadrant, and was "a man wholly absorbed in mathematical studies;" that he had made no inconsiderable improvement in these, a reference to his patron, "J. Logan," demonstrated. Not only by the strength of his mind, and close application, had he made a remarkable progress; but, in order to pursue his researches, he became a proficient in the Latin tongue,—the language in which many valuable treatises were at that time written. And it was amid the calls of his humble occupation, perhaps amid the anxieties consequent upon a limited income, that he was thus enabled to present another instance of the power of genius in overcoming obstacles of magnitude.

That the honor of the invention of the Quadrant, now falsely called Hadley's, belongs to Godfrey, is capable of the most positive proof. It is vouched for by men not more illustrious in science than eminent for the integrity of their character; and, on the pages of the Royal Society's proceedings, there is recorded the letter of the original and real inventor. Even in explanation of the manner in which he was deprived of the merit and honor of making the instrument, is given in the "American Magazine" for 1757-8. To place the matter in as clear a view as possible, we refer to the publications of the day. It was unfortunate that national jealousy alone could have influenced a decision so opposite to the first principles of justice; and that an institution, venerable for the very objects of its establishment, denied to Godfrey the acknowledgment of his claim. It was withholden from him in cruelty; and upon another was bestowed the bounty which might have relieved the humble child of genius, as well as the glory for which he aimed and had fairly won.

We have no hesitation in pronouncing Mr. Godfrey the real

original inventor of this famous and useful instrument, now falsely called Hadley's Quadrant, but in truth and justice should be Godfrey's.

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### THOMAS GODFREY, JR.

THE father of this poet and dramatist was the original inventor of the Sea Quadrant. Of the exact time of his birth there is no record; but his biographer and intimate friend, the Rev. N. Evans, in an account prefixed to his volume of poems, states that he was born in the year 1736, in the city of Philadelphia, and that at an early age he was made an orphan, by the death of his ingenious, though neglected parent. On this melancholy event, he was placed apprentice to a watchmaker; but it appears that he never was pleased with the pursuit selected for him by those who had control of his early life.

His taste for poetry displayed itself in youth, and the productions of his Muse were communicated to the world through the pages of the American Magazine, edited by the Rev. Dr. Smith. The benevolent feelings of this excellent man prompted him to extend his favorable regards to one, who had thus exhibited no inconsiderable talent in an art, which himself admired, and could properly appreciate. He encouraged Godfrey to cultivate his abilities, and not only supplied him with much valuable information, but also introduced him to the society of a number of his students, already endeared to him by their excellent dispositions and accomplishments.

Among these were Francis Hopkinson, Benjamin West, afterwards President of the Royal Society of Painters, and Jacob Duché, who subsequently became a clergyman, and officiated as Rector of St. Peter's Church, in Philadelphia. With West our poet formed a close intimacy, which ripened into a strong and mutual friendship.

Like this illustrious artist, Godfrey had early shown a taste for painting, but was dissuaded from pursuing it as a profession by his relatives. Whether it was from congeniality of feeling towards the art which West had determined to pursue throughout his life, or a



similarity of temper and disposition, the young painter appears to have been the favorite with our subject. It is related by Galt, in his *Life of the above distinguished artist*, that Godfrey would frequently compose his verses under a clump of pines which grew near the upper ferry of the Schuylkill, to which spot he sometimes accompanied West, and their mutual friends, to angle. In the heat of the day, he used to sketch himself beneath the shade of the trees, and repeat to them the verses as he composed them.

Through the exertions of the Rev. Dr. Smith, our poet received a lieutenancy in the Pennsylvania line, destined for an expedition against Du Quesne, now Pittsburg. He continued with the army to the end of the campaign; and amid the toils and privations of a border contest, he found seasons for engaging in his favorite pursuit. It was when garrisoned in Fort Henry that he wrote a poetic epistle, in which he described the horrors of savage warfare, the miseries of the frontier inhabitants, and the dreadful carnage of Indian massacres. The description, although agonizing, is given with poetic force, and is valuable for being the first production of the kind published in America, on a subject so painfully interesting.

A short time subsequent to the termination of his military engagements, he was induced to accept a commission as a mercantile agent, and went to North Carolina. During his residence there he composed a tragedy, entitled "*The Prince of Parthia*." This drama, which, in many portions, is indicative of no little genius in that department of literature, is not calculated for representation on the stage, being deficient in scenic effect. It, however, contains much merit, and has the honor of being the first tragedy written and published in our country.

Godfrey, on the death of his employer, returned to Philadelphia, and, having continued there for some time, was induced to sail as supercargo to the island of New Providence. Having completed his commissions, he revisited North Carolina, where, soon after his arrival, he was seized by a violent malignant fever, and in a few days was summoned to pay the debt of nature. He died on the 3d of August, 1763, in the twenty-seventh year of his age.

His productions were collected and published, in 1765, by his affectionate friend and ardent admirer, the reverend gentleman before mentioned. They comprise a volume of two hundred and



twenty-three quarto pages, and consist of poems on various subjects, with the tragedy already referred to. Among his productions there are to be found examples of poetical imagination, which are of a very high order and merit; and it is impossible to read his contributions without regret that it was his misfortune to want the advantages of a finished education; and that one of such fair promise should, in the morning of his life, have been called to the narrow house of silence and death!

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### JOHN D. GODMAN.

JOHN D. GODMAN was born at Annapolis, Maryland, December 20th, 1794. Deprived, in his second year, of both his parents, he was left dependent on the care of an aunt, who discharged her duties towards him with great tenderness. He had the misfortune to lose this relative also at the early age of seven years. He was afterwards apprenticed to a printer at Baltimore.

In 1814, on the entrance of the British into Chesapeake Bay, he became a sailor in the navy, and was engaged in the bombardment of Fort McHenry.

In the following year, he was invited by Dr. Lackey, who had become acquainted with the young printer while engaged in the study of his profession, to become an inmate of his residence at Elizabethtown. Gladly availing himself of this opening to the pursuit of the profession of his choice, Godman obtained a release from his indentures, and devoted himself with ardor to study under the direction of his friend. Having thus passed a few months, he continued his course with Dr. Hall, of Baltimore; and, after attending lectures in that city, and in the latter part of his course filling the place of Professor Davidge during his temporary absence, he took his degree February 7th, 1818.

After practising a short time in the village of New Holland, on the Susquehanna, in Anne Arundel County, and in the city of Philadelphia, he accepted the appointment of Professor of Anatomy in the then recently-established medical college of Ohio, at Cincinnati,

and entered upon his duties in October, 1821. He resigned, however, his chair in a few months, and commenced a medical periodical, projected by Dr. Drake, entitled "The Western Quarterly Reporter." Six numbers, of one hundred pages each, of this work, were published.

In the autumn of 1822, he removed to Philadelphia, suffering much from exposure on the journey, owing to the lateness of the season, and the delicate state of his constitution. He opened a room in the latter city under the auspices of the University, for private demonstrations in anatomy, a pursuit to which he devoted himself for some years with such assiduity as still further to impair his health.

In 1826, he removed to New York, in acceptance of a call to the Professorship of Anatomy in Rutgers Medical College. He delivered two courses of lectures with great success, but was then compelled to seek relief from exertion and a rigorous climate, by passing a winter in the West Indies. After his return in the following summer, he settled in Germantown, Philadelphia County, where he remained, gradually sinking under a consumption, until his death, April 17th, 1830.

His principal work, "The American Natural History," was commenced in the spring of 1823, and was completed in 1828, when it appeared in three volumes octavo. It is a work of great research,—the author having journeyed many hundreds of miles, as well as passed many months in his study, in the preparation,—and has been as much admired for its beauty of style, as accuracy and fulness of information.

Dr. Godman was for some time editor of "The Philadelphia Journal of the Medical Sciences," and contributed largely to its papers until the close of his life.

At an early stage of his professional career, Dr. Godman adopted the atheistic views of some of the French naturalists. He retained these errors until the winter of 1827, when he was called to attend the deathbed of a student of medicine, who was possessed of "the comfort of a reasonable faith." His mind was so impressed by the scene, that he devoted himself to the study of the Scriptures, and became a devout Christian.

## JOHN GOODMAN.

THE subject of this brief sketch was born in Germantown, Philadelphia County, in 1763, his parents having previously emigrated from Saxony.

At an early age he was entered as a scholar in the Germantown Academy, then under the direction of Captain Dungan, a most accomplished scholar, who afterwards resigned his charge, and took command of a volunteer company in the Continental army, and for whose memory his pupil always expressed the warmest respect. During the time he was not occupied in the Academy, the scholar assisted his father in the workshop, and there acquired a knowledge of mechanism, which placed him at the head of his profession.

Though a mere lad at the time, he engaged in the Revolutionary struggle, and was present with the army at the memorable battle of Trenton. After the successful termination of the war, he embarked in business pursuits, which he steadfastly and successfully prosecuted for many years; though he was always ready to give his services to his fellow-citizens, in the various stations they called upon him to fill.

In the year 1803 he became a member of the State Legislature, and was annually re-elected till 1806, by increased majorities. On account of the demands from his private affairs, he then declined a continuance of the suffrages of his constituents; but, upon retiring from the political field, was appointed Justice of the Peace by Governor McKean, under the following circumstances: On the evening previous to his leaving Lancaster, then the capital of the State, he received a message from the Governor, expressing a desire to see him. He immediately repaired to the residence of the Executive, who at once inquired whether he would leave on the following morning. Mr. Goodman replied that he, along with the county delegation, had already secured seats in the stage, with that intention. "But, sir, you would favor me by remaining in Lancaster to-morrow, and calling on me at ten o'clock; for I have some special matter to communicate to you." Observing that the Governor

seemed anxious that the interview should take place, he promised to remain, and departed for the evening. On the next day he called upon the Governor, who received him very cordially, and, after the usual salutations, observed: "Mr. Goodman, I have noticed your conduct whilst a member of the House, and I must say it has met my full approbation. I regret to hear that you will not return; but, to secure your services to the State, I have directed a commission, as justice of the peace, to be made out in your name: here it is, and, in presenting it, I do so with the confidence that you will execute its duties with honor to yourself." Mr. Goodman, it is almost needless to say, was surprised at the unsolicited tender, and asked permission to inquire, to what friend's solicitation he owed the honor of the Governor's commission. "To no one, sir," he replied. "Thomas McKean recommended you, and the Governor made the appointment." This anecdote, flattering as it is, would not have been related, but that it is as highly characteristic of Governor McKean, as it is honorable to Mr. Goodman.

On his return to the city he was urgently solicited to engage in the active duties of his unsolicited office. His friends knew the unfailing energy of his character and his stern integrity. He complied with their wishes, and assumed the duties of his station; and it is no more than mere justice to say that he came up to the full standard of an incorruptible, intelligent, and constitutional magistrate. His decisions were seldom reversed by the courts of appeal; and often the litigants before him left his bar mutually satisfied with the judgment decreed by his decisions. In fine, he may be truly termed to have been a model magistrate; and many now living, remember his official virtues, his unbending faithfulness to the laws, his uncompromising honesty of purpose, and his utter disregard to popular clamors.

About this time congregational difficulties arose in the Evangelical Lutheran churches of St. Michael and Zion on the subject of English preaching. Mr. Goodman, who had long noticed the folly of having the services conducted in a tongue to which the young were entire strangers, immediately took an active part with what was then termed the English portion. After some years had been spent in vainly endeavoring to procure one of the churches for those who only knew the language of the country, he proposed a sepa-



ration to his friends. They promptly responded to his advice; and, in a very short time, the numerous congregation of St. John's was organized, and the handsome edifice in Race Street, near Fifth, erected: their first pastor, the Rev. Philip F. Mayer, but lately deceased, having been called to their communion in 1806. For a long number of years Mr. Goodman presided over the Board of Trustees; and, by his continued exertions and correct life, was of essential service to the worshippers of this well-known temple.

In the year 1809 he was appointed Notary Public for the county of Philadelphia by Governor Simon Snyder, who had been a fellow-member of the Legislature. This situation was the means of calling into useful practice his excellent knowledge of the German language in preparing documents for that portion of Europe in which it was spoken.

He continued in the active discharge of his magisterial duties, with the united approval of the public, and the great satisfaction of his personal friends, when the war with England broke out. This event seemed to renew his youthful vigor and constitutional spirit. Although he had long commanded a volunteer corps of artillery, he, however, accepted the election to the colonelcy of the old 42d Regiment, and speedily equipped himself for martial service. In the succeeding year, at a general town meeting, he was appointed one of the Committee of Safety and Defence, to which body the most respectable and well-known inhabitants of the city being members, he was appointed secretary. In this station, which was one of incessant toil, he fully met the wishes and expectations of his friends, as well as of the public; and many of his suggestions to the Board, marked by sound judgment, and a kind of intuitive sagacity, are recorded to his honor and well-deserved praise.

In 1822 he was appointed Prothonotary of the District Court by Governor Heister. In this office he displayed his well-known integrity and fitness; and, when he retired from it, he received, as he fully merited, the approbation of the Court and Bar.

In 1838 the new Constitution of the State was adopted; and, in accordance with his previous declarations, he declined the united suffrages of all parties for his re-election to the office of Justice of the Peace.

During the whole of a long life he was well known as the de-



voted patron of every measure designed for the benefit, either political or moral, of his fellow-men. He was a member of countless societies established to confer relief to mankind, and he was ever prompt and attentive to their demands. Until a short time before his death he was a manager of the House of Refuge, of which establishment he was among the original founders.

A life of honor and usefulness, such as he spent, is not without its useful lesson to all. It was spent for the benefit of his day and generation; and, when it terminated, it was with deep regret to those who knew him. An attack of apoplexy, in the eighty-eighth year of his age, terminated the existence of a righteous Judge in Israel, of an unbending and faithful servant to society at large, and of a sincere Christian.

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## FREDERICK GRAFF.

It would be foreign to the intention of the following sketch to enter minutely into a history of Mr. Graff's life previous to his connection with the works to which he devoted so much of his time; it is sufficient to state, that at an early age he was apprenticed to two of the most noted carpenters of that day, Messrs. Rugan & Rhoads, with whom he served his time satisfactorily to them and with credit to himself.

He worked at his trade successfully until about his twenty-second year, when, by cutting his knee very severely with a hatchet, he was brought to the verge of the grave, and barely escaping amputation of the limb, found himself lamed for life, and entirely incapacitated for the trade he had chosen.

Whilst he was still upon crutches, he met with Mr. H. B. Latrobe, who was then engaged in erecting the Pennsylvania Bank, South Second Street, Philadelphia. Mr. Latrobe finding Mr. Graff capable, employed him to make the working drawings for this beautiful building, and eventually as clerk and superintendent of the works, where he continued until the completion of the building.

In 1799, Mr. Graff was employed by Mr. Latrobe as draughts-

man and assistant engineer, in erecting the first water-works for supplying the city.

In the year 1800, Mr. Latrobe was solicited to build the Branch Bank of Deposit at Norfolk, Va.; but being unable to undertake the work himself, he recommended and succeeded in having Mr. Graff appointed for that purpose; who accordingly proceeding to Norfolk, designed and erected the Bank. After leaving Norfolk, he was employed for some time as engineer of the Santee Canal, South Carolina.

Returning to Philadelphia, he was again engaged in assisting at the water-works, Centre Square; and upon the 1st of April, 1805, was elected superintendent and engineer of those works.

The management of the works was attended with great labor and anxiety, arising from the defectiveness of machinery in those days. Some idea of this may be formed from the fact of one of the large steam-engines then in use (which were the first of that size built in America), being supplied with steam generated in a boiler which consisted of a square wooden box of four-inch white pine plank, with a flue and furnace in it of cast iron; whilst the other engine was supplied by a boiler made entirely of cast iron. This boiler Mr. Graff soon improved, by putting into it a wrought-iron bottom; but the wooden boiler continued in use until the works were abandoned.

Many of the iron castings of the engines and pumps were so imperfect as to require to be lined with sheet-copper before they could be made tight enough to answer the purpose for which they were intended.

The reservoirs, which consisted of large tubs placed in the upper story of the building, contained only about a half hour's supply. The machinery was so defective that the engines seldom ran a week without requiring repairs; and at least one night in almost every week was spent by Mr. Graff in the pump-well of one or other of the engines, directing repairs, which necessarily had to be done at night.

The distribution also caused great trouble, being entirely through wooden pipes, which were constantly out of order. The timber for these logs was purchased and measured by Mr. Graff, and in the performance of this duty it was his constant habit to walk to Rich-

mond, upon the Delaware, before daylight, to measure and survey them.

The Centre Square works at length became so inadequate that Councils directed the Watering Committee "to cause examinations to be made in relation to an alteration of the mode of supplying the city with water; and also whether any other mode could be advantageously substituted for the one in operation."

The Committee accordingly appointed Mr. Graff and Mr. J. Davis, the former superintendent of the works, to make the necessary examinations; and on the 18th of December, 1811, these gentlemen made a joint report, in which they recommend the abandonment of the old works and basins, and the erection of reservoirs upon the hill at Fairmount, to be supplied by steam-engines upon the Schuylkill at its base.

After consideration of the suggestions made in this report, Councils purchased the site at Fairmount, and commenced building the works upon it, August, 1812.

The task of building these works was intrusted to Mr. Graff, and (with the exception of the designs for the steam-engines) they were entirely designed and executed by him, including the pumps, buildings, mains, and reservoirs; at the same time, he continued the management of the old works at Centre Square.

In consequence of this great increase of duty without a corresponding increase of salary, Mr. Graff, in March, 1815, found himself obliged to tender his resignation as superintendent. It was accepted by the Committee, who immediately advertised in the Philadelphia, New York, and Baltimore papers for a suitable person to supply his place; no one, however, offered, and the committee re-engaged Mr. Graff at an advanced salary.

Steam machinery was still in its infancy, and the works were attended with great and vexatious difficulties. In 1819, it was determined to change the mode of supplying the reservoirs at Fairmount from steam to water power. A contract was made with Mr. A. Cooley for the erection of the dam for that purpose, which was commenced April 19th, 1819. Mr. Graff was called upon to give the designs for the work; he therefore made all the plans, and superintended the execution of the canal and locks on the west side of the river; the forebay, head arches with their gates; the reser-

voirs, main and stop cocks, mill buildings, pumps, and every other part of the works, excepting the first three wheels and the dam,—whilst at the same time he was obliged to oversee the steam-works, contract for all work and materials, pay all expenses, and keep the accounts of both old and new works.

At this period he was engaged in devising, and bringing to its present state of perfection, the iron pipe system in the city; a system which has served as a model for almost all works of the kind since erected in the United States.

It must be borne in mind that these were the first iron pipes of large size made in this country, and that the water-works were the first in the country, there being no similar works here to serve as guides, and those in England were by no means perfect, and scarcely of any use as models. In fact, Mr. Graff soon sent to England patterns of fire-plugs and stop-cocks, which were acknowledged to be superior to anything of the kind in use there. All the cast-iron water-wheels erected since the first three, were built upon the designs of Mr. Graff.

In the year 1833 the city became engaged in a controversy with the Schuylkill Navigation Company, in the course of which Mr. Graff was directed to have the lock-gates spiked shut (this was then in charge of the Committee). He went with the men, during a very inclement night, to perform this duty. The rain, as it fell, froze upon him, thereby causing a severe cold; this, with intense anxiety of mind, threw him upon a sick bed, where he remained for nine months; from the consequences of which he never entirely recovered, and which, without doubt, was instrumental in causing his decease. This lamented event took place on the 13th April, 1847, he being at the time within a few months of his seventy-third year, forty-two of which were passed in the service of the city corporation.

Mr. Graff's great experience enabled him to give much information to others. This he invariably bestowed most cheerfully, impressing the minutest particulars upon the minds of inquirers, with as much interest as if he made the knowledge a source of lucrative profit. He supplied detailed information to upwards of thirty-seven corporations who have erected water-works in the United States, including New York and Boston. The information given



in many cases, consisting of plans, calculations, &c., was so diffuse and circumstantial, that he may almost be said to have designed the works for which it was requested.

Mr. Graff was exceedingly happy in his expedients for overcoming difficulties which necessarily occurred in the progress of the works; and the great foresight exhibited in the design of the works, is apparent from the fact of the works having answered their purpose, and supplied the city, without changes in the original design, for more than thirty years; whilst many of the works since erected have been found deficient in six or eight years. All the works were characterized by great economy and perfect efficiency.

Mr. Graff's character, in his relations with these works, was marked by unbending integrity, untiring energy, and ceaseless activity, for the best interests of the public. No influence could tempt him from the performance of his duty, which he always had the moral courage to perform without regard to personal consequences.

In order to show that the exertions of Mr. Graff met with the entire and cordial approbation of the Watering Committee, under whose authority he had acted, we insert the following extract from the Minutes of that Committee, which was sent to him on the completion of the water-power works at Fairmount.

Extract from the Minutes of the Watering Committee, December 31st, 1822.

"The Watering Committee, taking into consideration the great labor and strict attention of Mr. Graff, in the works at Fairmount, have agreed to the following resolution:—

"Resolved, That Mr. Graff merits the thanks of this Committee, and they are hereby tendered to him, for his judgment, prudence, indefatigable attention, and taste, in the management and prosecution of the works at Fairmount, to the period of their happy conclusion, owing largely to his exertions and skill; and also for his zealous attention to the general interests of the city, in all its concerns under his management.

"SAMUEL W. RUSH,  
"Register."



As a further testimonial of their estimation of the services of Mr. Graff, a silver vase, which cost two hundred and forty-five dollars, was presented by the Watering Committee, on which was engraved the following inscription:—

“This vase is presented, on behalf of the city of Philadelphia, by the Watering Committee of the Councils, to Frederick Graff, to express their admiration of the taste, judgment, and fidelity with which he arranged and assisted in prosecuting to a conclusion, the public works at Fairmount.”

And in the Annual Report of the Watering Committee to Councils, made on the 6th January, 1823, the following language is used:—

“The Committee cannot close this report, without presenting in the most distinct manner to the notice of both the Councils and the city, Mr. Frederick Graff, for many years Superintendent of the Water-works, whose taste in the design, and whose judgment in the arrangement of the works at Fairmount, with his indefatigable zeal for the public interest in every department, have attracted the regard and thanks of the Committee, and entitle him to those of Councils.”

A second vase was presented to Mr. Graff in 1828, having the following inscription:—

“Presented by the Watering Committee of the city of Philadelphia, to Frederick Graff, Esq., Superintendent of the Water-works, as a testimonial of respect for his talents and zeal effectually displayed in overcoming unforeseen difficulties encountered in the construction of the northeast reservoir at Fairmount Water-works. Philadelphia, September 1st, 1828.”

Mr. Graff was born August 27th, 1775, and died April 13th, 1847.

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## WILLIAM R. GRANT, M.D.

BY HENRY S. PATTERSON, M.D.

WILLIAM ROBERTSON GRANT was born at East River, in the neighboring British province of Nova Scotia, on the 22d of December, 1811. His paternal grandfather was a native of Inverness, in Scotland, who came early to the province, and took up the original grant of a large tract of land in the neighborhood of Pictou.



His mother, whose maiden name was Robertson, was a native of Scotland. By his parents, who were pious and consistent members of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland, he was educated in the strictest principles of that rigid denomination. Early destined for the Church by their anxious care, he received the best education the province afforded. His religious principles necessarily excluded him from King's College, the only degree-conferring institution in the province, and in which only members of the Church of England could consistently graduate. But the unwearying attention to education, which has always characterized the Scottish people, as well in their emigrations as at home, was displayed here also. In the Pictou Academy, the Presbyterians of Nova Scotia provided for their children all the substantial advantages of a classical and collegiate education, if they could not legally obtain for them the Baccalaureate. Here it was that young Grant received his early education, on the completion of which he entered, in accordance with the wishes of his parents, the divinity class of the same institution.

It was at this period that his attention was first directed to the study of medicine. With the circumstances that produced this important change in his career I am unacquainted. It certainly was not from any loss of faith in the tenets of his Church or any weakening of his attachment to its principles. To his last hour, it numbered him among its most consistent and devoted members and office-bearers.

Perhaps his peculiarly sensitive and diffident nature shrunk from the high responsibilities of a station which seemed to him so sacred and awful, or, more probably, he had the rare discernment to perceive the calling to which his powers and disposition more peculiarly adapted him. Be this as it may, his resolution was taken; and, in the autumn of 1834, he relinquished the study of theology, and entered, as a medical student, the office of Dr. Alexander Macdonald, a highly respectable practitioner of Antigonish. This gentleman has since testified his regard for and confidence in Dr. Grant by sending his son to study under the paternal care of his former pupil, and to receive a degree from Pennsylvania College. After studying two years under the care of Dr. Macdonald, our friend resolved to complete his medical education at Philadelphia, as the

medical metropolis of our continent. He sailed in a vessel from Pictou to New York ; and, on the 17th of December, 1836, he first entered Philadelphia, which was to be his home, and the scene of his labors and distinction. Immediately on arriving, he matriculated as a pupil of Jefferson Medical College, and devoted himself to his studies with the whole energy of his nature. Notwithstanding that his age was already more advanced than that of most of his fellow-pupils, he took three full courses of lectures, applying himself particularly to the cultivation of anatomy, which had for him peculiar charms. In the autumn of 1838, although still an undergraduate, he received, from the late Professor Pattison, the flattering appointment of Assistant Demonstrator of Anatomy. Between Grant and his distinguished teacher and principal there thus arose a close intimacy and sincere friendship, which were never interrupted.

In the spring of 1839 he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine, having submitted a thesis upon "Topical Applications," and was almost immediately appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy and Curator of the Museum in Jefferson College. These situations he filled with credit to himself and advantage to his Alma Mater for three years. In the summer of 1842 he resigned them and opened private anatomical rooms in College Avenue ; that location which, first made illustrious by the eloquence and zeal of Godman, has since been regarded as an eminently anatomical quarter, and seems to have become a school of the prophets in that line, furnishing our colleges with able, accomplished, and experienced teachers of that difficult science.

Here it was that my personal acquaintance with Dr. Grant and his connection with the members of this Faculty commenced. He was then well established in our city in all his relations. Recognized as an able and promising physician, he was laying the foundation of an extensive practice. Reviving his connection with the branch of the Church of his fathers in our city, he had already (in 1840) been elevated by the congregation of the First Associate Presbyterian Church to the office of a Ruling Elder, a trust seldom reposed in one so young. A citizen of our country, by naturalization, he had still further identified himself with Philadelphia by a matrimonial alliance with the family of one of our most respectable and influential citizens, Mr. John McAllister. These circumstances,

together with his undisputed reputation as a learned and successful teacher of anatomy, recommended him to the consideration of a body of medical gentlemen, who were then seeking to establish a summer-school of medicine. Into their association he entered, and they commenced their lectures in the spring of 1843. The first results of this enterprise were not encouraging. Several changes occurred in the association; and, in the fall of the same year, Drs. Grant, Darrach, Wiltbank, and myself, composed its members.

At this time occurred the dissolution of the original Faculty of Pennsylvania College, erected by the withdrawing members of the old Faculty of Jefferson College, with the addition of the late lamented and world-renowned Dr. Samuel George Morton and others. Into the causes of this dissolution it would now be both painful and irrelevant to inquire. Suffice it to say that the disruption seemed final, and the school in danger of perishing. Under these circumstances, the association just referred to made overtures, both to the Trustees and the late Faculty for the reorganization of the school. Some technical difficulty existing as to the right of appointment to the vacant chairs, the new incumbents entered upon possession in virtue of an appointment by the Trustees, confirmed by an instrument signed by a majority of the former Faculty, relinquishing to them and their associates all right and title whatever to the school, its honors, and emoluments.

Thus it was that Dr. Grant assumed the responsibilities of Professor of Anatomy in Pennsylvania College, then apparently on the brink of ruin. The documents legalizing the appointment of himself and colleagues were not received until the "introductory week" had commenced. The students who came to Philadelphia to attend the lectures of the College were scattered abroad. Most had gone to other institutions, many of them to other cities. Several graduated the succeeding spring in New York and Baltimore. Desperate as the undertaking seemed to most, it was attempted, and a Faculty of four members carried through the course of lectures with a class of twenty-three pupils. During the session, Dr. Grant labored with untiring zeal and energy, delivering six lectures weekly upon Anatomy, and three upon Operative Surgery, while he attended assiduously to the duties of the dissecting-room. Before the close of the session, his health, already somewhat impaired, began to fail



him, but he persevered to the end. On the 9th of March, 1844, the Faculty completed their labors by holding a public commencement in their own lecture-room in Filbert Street, and before a very limited audience, at which the degree of Doctor of Medicine was conferred upon seven pupils. Shortly afterwards, their number was filled by the appointment of Dr. Gilbert, as Professor of Surgery, and Dr. Atlee, as Professor of Chemistry. The prospect now began to brighten, and the erection of this building, with a class at the last session of one hundred and thirty pupils, displays the result of the arduous labors thus inauspiciously begun. In these labors, Dr. Grant always bore his full share. Devoted to the interests of the College, he strove earnestly for its establishment, and rejoiced in its prosperity.

During all this time he suffered occasionally from a pulmonary affection, left as the sequela of a previous severe attack of pleuropneumonia. He seldom passed through the labors of a session without suffering one or more of his attacks, which were latterly complicated with evidences of cardiac hypertrophy. He was plainly suffering under serious organic disease, resisted by the powers of a naturally vigorous and sound constitution, as well as by carefully regular and abstemious habits. Both in his practice and in his teaching he underwent a great amount of fatiguing labor. Of an ardent and enthusiastic temperament, he entered upon the work in hand with his whole might, and prosecuted it with eagerness. During the past session his friends flattered themselves that his health was better than usual. Toward spring he manifested signs of exhaustion and debility, but nothing to prepare us for the change so speedily to occur. As so often happens in long-continued chronic illness, the end came upon us suddenly and unexpectedly. Indeed, our friend may be said to have died, like a faithful sentinel of humanity, at his post and with his armor on his back. It was in the discharge of professional duty that his illness was contracted. On the afternoon of Tuesday, March 23d, he was summoned in haste to the aid of a woman who had committed suicide by hanging in the cellar of her own house. He went with speed, entered the damp and chilling atmosphere of the place, while heated with labor and excitement, and, the people around recoiling from the loathsome object, he raised the heavy body with one arm, while he

detached the rope from the neck with the other. Hoping that life might still be restored, he labored long and assiduously in the same cold cellar before he resigned the unfortunate creature to her irrevocable fate. The evening of the same day he spent at my house, where he seemed much excited and nervously agitated by the horrors of the scene he had just witnessed. His largely sympathetic heart was painfully wrung, and his tender feeling of humanity shocked by the wretched spectacle of crime and misery he had come through, and whose terrible consequences he had so earnestly but vainly striven to avert. In the course of the night he was seized with chill, and, the next day, was prostrated by a pulmonary attack of unusual violence. The history of his case it is not my place to give, as it will doubtless be made public by one more fully conversant with all its details. No apprehensions of a fatal issue were at first entertained, but it soon became apparent that the remedies used were failing of the desired effect. Drs. Atlee and Darrach were unremitting in their care, and their devotion was appreciated with expressions of grateful thanks by their beloved patient. On Saturday, the 27th, it was believed that a favorable change had taken place in his condition; but, on Sunday, it became manifest that all human aid was vain, and that the end was near. His mind was entirely clear, composed, and tranquil. Perfectly aware of his rapidly approaching dissolution, not one feeling of terror or dismay seemed to disturb the calm serenity of his spirit. Death was a topic on which he had reflected long and prayerfully, and he could approach the dark portal of the grave without one tremulous shudder, without one murmur of regret, leaning on the arm of Him that is mighty to save. The religious trust he had learned on his mother's knee, and which he never for a moment lost his hold upon through life, was with him to the last, and shed its joy and light upon his dying pillow. To him death had no sting, and over him the grave could have no victory. Though his heart yearned to the dear ones around him, he could bid them a last farewell with a heavenly smile upon his countenance, for he believed, with a full and perfect earnestness of faith, that he should meet them again in an abiding city, to part no more forever. And so, on that Sabbath afternoon, while the friends he loved were raising, in the house of prayer, the song of thanksgiving in which

he had so often joined, his spirit gently took its departure from its earthly habitation, and there remained to us of our friend only his lifeless form.

It is needless to say that the intelligence of this sad event made a most painful and profound impression upon many. No man was more beloved in the circle of his acquaintance than Dr. Grant. This was made manifest on the occasion of his interment, when so many persons, representing so many professions, interests, opinions, and social grades, assembled to pay the last honors to his mortal remains. In that train also were seen the professors, alumni, and students of this College, anxious to testify by every means in their power their respect to the memory of departed worth.

The character of Grant presents several points whose contemplation may afford interest and instruction, and to these I now propose to direct your attention. I do not appear here, be it understood, either as a critic or a eulogist. My object is not to apply the moral scalpel to our subject, nor, on the other hand, to indulge in his indiscriminate praise. My aim is more genial than the one, and more honest than the other. It is to trace the lineaments of our deceased friend, precisely such as they appeared to his brethren of the Faculty, and according to the best of my poor ability. If, in so doing, my feelings lend a bias to my pen, it is unconsciously to myself. To weigh the spirit of a man in an even balance belongs, I know, to a purer discernment than man can attain, but I hope to accomplish my task in sincerity, appealing to those around me, who knew him even better than I did, for the truthfulness of the portraiture.

Every man who has reflected carefully upon the elements which should go to compose the *good physician*, has formed to himself an ideal of that perfect character ;—one, perhaps, so perfect that none of his associates or contemporaries can fulfil its necessities, or seem to deserve the name. It is hard to try poor human nature by such a standard, and such I would not apply now. No man would have shrunk more instinctively from the application of such a touchstone than Grant, diffident as he was of his powers, and ever anxiously fearful of falling short in the duties of his profession. Yet I can safely aver that few men have been better fitted by nature and education for those duties than he. His heart was tender and sym-

pathetic as a woman's. His ear was never deaf to the cry of suffering. Ever ready to fly to the relief of pain and disease, he labored in the work of healing for the work's sake. To him the prospect of remuneration was always a secondary object, perhaps kept too subordinate for his own pecuniary interest in this mercenary world. He could weep with those that wept, and felt himself repaid when, through his ministrations, suffering was relieved, and the warm hues of health were brought back to the cheek paled by lingering disease. Yet with all this tenderness there was in him a resolute firmness of character, due alike to his Scottish blood, and his rigid Scottish training. He never shrank from the infliction of pain, when that infliction was indispensable to the accomplishment of an ulterior good result. His hand never shook as it urged the knife through the quivering flesh of a fellow-being in a life-saving operation, even though his heart at the moment yearned over that patient with all the deep sympathy of a brother's love. It is this union of tenderness with firmness that qualifies a man eminently for the office of a surgeon, and this our friend fully possessed.

In the study of the literature of his profession, as well as in its practice, he was industrious and laborious. He was well read upon every branch of our science. While anatomy was his chosen department, he never neglected any other, and his opinions upon all medical topics were therefore valuable and instructive. His conversation was sought alike by students and physicians. From the stores of his extensive reading and observation, he could bring something to throw light upon every topic that was suggested and every case that presented itself for treatment. Possessing an extensive and well-selected library, he spent much time in study. He was not one of those who believe that their professional education is completed when the diploma is obtained. He felt deeply that *his* education could never be completed, while the stores of medical learning were still unexhausted by him, or even while nature displayed new fields of research and discovery. This sentiment arose mainly from his conscientiousness in all professional matters. The high-toned regard for truth and honor which characterized all his relations in life, was particularly conspicuous in his intercourse with his patients and his medical brethren. In



assuming the charge of a case of disease, he felt that he took in his hands the awful responsibility of a human life, and his tender conscience would give him no rest if he knew that the means of cure failed in his hands from the want of some one fact or process which a larger reading or profounder reflection might have supplied. Hence he was fully convinced that his duty to God and humanity required him to omit no opportunity of instruction, but to persevere in his study with the same ardent thirst for knowledge as when he first entered upon its pursuit. The same consideration made him a particularly cautious physician. When the subject in hand was the life of a fellow-being, he dared not be rash or precipitate. He spent much time with his patients, watched them long and anxiously, and never entered upon any course of practice without a firm conviction of its propriety.

In his relations to his medical brethren, he was kind, courteous, and honorable. The ethical rules which regulate our professional intercourse he observed with scrupulous care. Never forward nor obtrusive, he applied to his conduct among his brethren the scriptural injunction: In honor preferring one another. His position in regard to them was therefore always of the most pleasant character. No man ever had fewer enemies, and no man was ever more sincerely mourned by those whom a contrary course might so readily have converted into business rivals and personal foes. His professional standing was evidenced by his early reception into the College of Physicians. He was a member of the County Medical Society, and, a short time before his decease, was chosen by that body a delegate to represent it at the annual meeting of the State Medical Society. His name also appears upon the roll of permanent members of the National Medical Association, in which he had represented the Faculty of Pennsylvania College.

As a teacher of anatomy, Dr. Grant was remarkable more for clearness and systematic accuracy of detail, than for any powers of elocution. He made no pretension to oratorical display, which indeed he felt to be out of place in a purely demonstrative chair. His style of language was therefore plain, but full and perspicuous. His object being to teach, he sought chiefly to be intelligible to all, and to carry his class with him by familiar explanation and copious illustration. A happy natural tact and mechanical ingenuity ren-



dered him peculiarly felicitous in the choice and arrangement of demonstrative illustration. That he was a successful teacher is admitted on all hands. For proofs of this can I do better than appeal to you, who were members of the last class, and to the alumni of the school, now before me, who enjoyed the benefits of his instruction?

In all his personal relations, Dr. Grant was characterized by great amiability of temper, courteous deportment, and the strictest integrity. Kindly and affable to all, he was ever a welcome guest at the social fireside, as well as in the chamber of disease and death. His gentle manners and sympathizing conversation endeared him much to the hearts of his patients. Rigidly honorable and upright, he endeavored to regulate all his conduct by a sense of duty. He never deviated from the principles of morality instilled into his mind in early youth. Thrown here into this sinful city, a stranger youth among strangers, he carried in his breast a sure talisman against all its allurements and temptations, and, by the uniform correctness of his walk and conversation, soon gained the confidence and esteem of his teachers, his fellow-pupils, and the society into which he was introduced. Happy the medical student who, like him, can pass through the slippery path of his city probation, and keep the white garments of his youthful innocence "unspotted from the world!"

Any attempt to delineate the character of Dr. Grant must be incomplete, however, without a reference to his religious position and course. On this point, allow me to read an extract from an obituary notice, by his beloved pastor, the Rev. J. B. Dales, in the *Christian Instructor* of May, 1852, and which is appropriately headed, *A good man fallen!*

"In his religious character Dr. Grant was exemplary and useful. On the 2d of May, 1838, he joined the First Associate Reformed Church in this city, on a certificate from the church in his native place; and about two years afterwards (Nov. 19, 1840) he was ordained to the office of a Ruling Elder. Thenceforth, in Session, in Presbytery, and in the Synod—in the chambers of the sick and the houses of the poor—in the loneliness of the stranger, the sorrows of the afflicted, and the wants of the needy, he was uniformly regarded as the wise counsellor, the true friend, the sincere Chris-

tian. In his death, a Pastor mourns an Aaron or a Hur, who was ever ready to hold up the hands that would tremble under the toil and weight of ministerial duty. A Session mourns a brother who was zealous for the purity of God's house, the spiritual welfare of his people, and the advancement of the cause of righteousness and truth. And a Church mourns a fellow-member, who loved the gates of Zion, and was ever ready to weep with them that wept, and rejoice with them that rejoiced."

The consolations he had so often ministered to others he was privileged to test himself, gloriously and triumphantly. The faith that guided his steps through life, shed a halo of celestial light over his dying bed. In the near prospect of dissolution, his pale lips could murmur, "*All is well!*" and as he felt earth receding, and his spirit losing its hold upon its tenement of clay, his face beamed with the fulness of joy and peace, as he said faintly, "*I am almost home!*" The last words the anxious watchers heard from his lips were, "*exceeding and eternal weight of glory,*" and, almost at that moment, the last dread change passed over his countenance, and his immortal spirit had gone to God who gave it. In the view of that closing scene, where death was deprived of all its terrors, who would not exclaim: LET ME DIE THE DEATH OF THE RIGHTEOUS, AND LET MY LAST END BE LIKE HIS!

Believe me, gentlemen, that in these remarks I am actuated by no desire of sermonizing. I merely desire to point out to you that happy Christian death-bed scene, to ask you to contemplate it thoughtfully, and to let its luminous teachings work their way in your inmost hearts. Neither am I influenced by any sectarian sympathy, or desire to magnify the tenets so faithfully and trustfully held by our deceased friend. The circles of our religious conviction touched in but few points, but in the points where they did coincide, thank God, lay the great central facts of all spiritual truth. Happy for us it is that the sphere of that truth lies beyond that of intellectual speculation, and there may those of the most opposite convictions meet in unity of spirit and in the bonds of faith. In my early studentship, my reverence was divided between two of the lights of our profession, now extinguished. The one, Dr. Otto, had been the beloved physician of my family, our revered helper in all times of trouble and distress. The other was my distinguished

preceptor, Dr. Parrish. Between these two good men existed a most intimate friendship and daily intercourse, one of the bonds of which was a common admiration of the Imitation of Christ of Thomas à Kempis. Never shall fade from my mind the beautiful spectacle of those venerable forms,—the placid and peaceful Quaker, and the rigidly devout Presbyterian,—bending together over the glowing pages of the heavenly-minded Catholic. Never shall I unlearn the lesson of a true and holy Catholicity of spirit which was thus taught me, and which I have always believed to be one of the best badges of our profession. It is under the influence of this sentiment that I address you now, and entreat you to ponder carefully the teachings of that hour that proclaims, in tones more thrillingly convincing than the voice of an archangel, that “blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.” “Yea, saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors, and their works do follow them.” May the Master of life grant you that spirit in full measure, filling all your earthly journey with pleasantness, and crowning your last hour with a glory like to that of him whose loss we mourn, though we know it was great gain to him. So may he, whose life was devoted to your service, be made a blessing to you even in his death, and the companion of your joy in the great resurrection!

And now I have performed—how inadequately I feel as deeply as any of you can do—the task assigned me by our Faculty. As a labor of love, receive and regard it, and visit it with no severer criticism. If I shall have stirred up the pure minds of any of you to a resolute determination to walk in the footsteps of the friend I have displayed as an example to you, my highest wish will be abundantly gratified.

The services of this hour have been devoted to a work of duty, and the expression of a feeling we could not and would not disregard. My part has been thus to plant the cypress over a grave we would not have forgotten. When next we meet, my colleagues will introduce you to the more immediate business of our union. I have detained you to-day in the place of tombs, and amid the memorials of the dead, where the feelings that arise are enough to occupy our minds for the present. Under their sombre shadow we separate for the night, but

“To-morrow, to fresh fields and pastures new!”

Dr. Grant died in Philadelphia, March 28th, 1852.

## HYMAN GRATZ.

THIS aged and much-esteemed citizen of Philadelphia died on the 27th January, 1857, at his residence, in Chestnut Street, Philadelphia. He was the son of Michael Gratz, one of the old time merchants of Philadelphia, and was himself one of that honorable fraternity for many years. He was born in the year 1776. He retained his mental and physical vigor, to a remarkable degree, up to a short time before his death. He was, for many years, President of the Pennsylvania Insurance Company, and President of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts.

As an evidence of the esteem entertained for him, we copy an account of the proceedings of a special meeting of the Directors of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts:—

“PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF THE FINE ARTS, }  
30th January, 1857. }

“A special meeting of the Directors was held at the Academy.

“The President stated that he had convened the present special meeting of the Board to announce to them the event of the death of Mr. Gratz, one of the Directors and the Treasurer of the Academy. Therefore it was, on motion of Mr. Caleb Cope, unanimously

“Resolved, That this Board has received, with sincere regret, the announcement just made of the death of their colleague, Mr. Hyman Gratz, for many years a Director and the Treasurer of the Academy. That they desire to record their deep sense of his long and valuable services to the institution, his unwearied attention, fidelity, and care in the discharge of all his duties as a Director and Treasurer; his constant interest in the progress and judicious cultivation and development of Art, and the urbanity which characterized his personal intercourse. That a copy of these resolutions, signed by the President and Secretary, be transmitted to the family of Mr. Gratz and published.

“HENRY D. GILPIN,

“President.

“JOHN SARTAIN,

“Secretary.”



## GEORGE GRAY,

OF GRAY'S FERRY.

MR. GRAY bore an important part in the Revolution, and was conspicuous as a public man. He was the author of the memorable "Treason Resolutions," reported by the committee of which he was chairman, although he assigned the place of honor first to his friend Dickinson, and afterwards to Dr. Franklin, reserving to himself, merely as a post of responsibility, the chairmanship of the committee, whose duty it was to issue the paper coinage of the province, which declared itself to be in revolt against the sovereign.

When the proposal to emit bills of credit was first discussed in the Assembly, some timidity was evinced by honorable members present, and one opponent of the measure in particular exclaimed, "Who will sign them?" "I," answered Mr. Gray; "to the amount which my property will sufficiently secure, I will sign them myself." The measure was then determined upon with but three votes in the negative.

By the minutes of the Committee of Safety, it appears, that he attended its meetings to the last. He is recorded as present on the 13th of March, 1777. Upon that day he was appointed Chairman of the Board of War by the Executive Council (which then assumed the reins of power), and so continued as long as the Board had active duties to perform. At the battle of Brandywine, which he attended, perhaps, in his official capacity, he escaped capture by a flight too precipitate to be dignified, and was glad to take refuge in a farm-house, whose friendly inmates detained him in a barrel, or meal-bin, from the evening of the 11th to the 12th of September. He came out with more of his apparel than his big wig, finely powdered.

Mr. Gray was afterwards a member of the Convention to amend the Constitution of the State (from Philadelphia County), in which body his votes were invariably on the popular side; and was, afterwards, Speaker of the House of Representatives. Unwilling, as he



said, to survive his wife, who had deceased the year before, he died in 1800. She was a true heroine; the woman who fed our starving prisoners; the woman who quarrelled so handsomely with Renegade Cunningham, the British provost-marshal, at the State-House Prison, when he kicked over her tub of soup; the woman, also, who had this brute reprimanded and kept in order.

Mr. Gray was the fifth George Gray in line of descent from George Gray, of Barbadoes, a wealthy *public friend*; and Mrs. Gray was Martha, daughter of Robert Ibbetson, a noted *English* Methodist and Moravian, who was united to Friends before his death. But the Quakers turned George Gray out of meeting as early as 1775, for the part he took in the Assembly, and his patriotic wife went with him. His daughter, Rebecca, was, however, distinguished as a preacher in meeting before her untimely death, which took place about the beginning of the present century.

Whitby Hall, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gray, and still inhabited by their daughter, the venerable Mrs. Martha Gray Thomas, is standing in Gray's Lane, east of the Darby Road, 24th Ward, and is a good specimen of the domestic architecture of the day. It was built, part in 1741, and part in 1758.

Mr. Gray was first elected a member of the Assembly from Philadelphia County in 1772, and was Chairman of Committee of Accounts in 1774 and after. Among the numerous resolutions passed by the Assembly, June 30th, 1775, we find the following:—

“Resolved, That *bills of credit*, to the amount of thirty-five thousand pounds, shall, on or before the first day of August next, be prepared and printed upon good strong paper, under the care and direction of George Gray, William Rodman, Joseph Parker, and Isaac Pearson, Esqs., or any three of them, at the charge of the public, to be defrayed out of the said bills.

“Resolved, That the same bills shall have such like escutcheons and devices as the said George Gray, Joseph Parker, William Rodman, and Isaac Pearson, shall think fit.

“Resolved, That the said George Gray, Joseph Parker, William Rodman, and Isaac Pearson, or any three of them, after the said bills are printed, shall deliver them to the signers, to be signed and numbered by parcels, for which they shall take receipts.”

We find that the public and important services of Mr. Gray are

not exaggerated by his descendants. He was one of the master-spirits during our Revolutionary struggle, and recorded history confirms the family traditions respecting his noble and patriotic course.

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## ASHBEL GREEN.

ASHBEL GREEN, D. D., who succeeded to President Samuel Stanhope Smith, was a native of New Jersey, born at Hanover, July 6, 1762. He was a graduate of the College of 1783; entered the ministry; was Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy in Princeton from 1785 to 1787; was Chaplain to Congress in Philadelphia from 1792 to 1800, a position which brought him into relation with Washington, whom he had seen in the field in his early militia days in New Jersey, and the best society of the day; he was elected to the College of New Jersey in 1812, which he occupied for ten years, the marked incidents of his career being the great insubordination and revival; on his retirement, conducting a Presbyterian religious journal, "The Christian Advocate," in Philadelphia, for twelve years; in his subsequent leisure, preparing a "Memoir of John Witherspoon," which is still in manuscript; and, at the age of eighty-two, commencing an autobiography, which he continued to write till within two years of his death, which occurred in his eighty-sixth year, May 19, 1848. His chief publications are the periodical which we have mentioned, his posthumous autobiography, and a collection of his discourses, with an appendix, containing, among other articles, a history of his College, and tributes to its presidents, which appeared in Philadelphia in 1822. He had also been engaged in revising, for the American market, the articles in Rees's and the Edinburgh Encyclopædias; for which, he tells us, he received, as compensation, a set of the works. His autobiography contains much devotional matter, a few anecdotes of Washington and his early "court" days, and an interesting diary of a tour which he made into New England in the summer of 1791. He was a polished writer. His portrait shows a fine dark eye, which, though he was an amiable man, contributed to the severity

of his countenance, according to the College reputation of his austere appearance.

He was President of Princeton College during the great riot and rebellion among the students, January 19th, 1817.

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### JACOB GREEN, M.D.

JACOB GREEN, M.D., an American scholar, distinguished as a general scientific and literary character, was born in Philadelphia, July 26th, 1790, where he was also educated, graduating at the University of Pennsylvania, when at the age of sixteen years. He evinced a taste for the study of natural sciences at so early a period in life, that it seemed almost akin to an instinct. His first labors, even in boyhood, were devoted to botanical studies, and he made quite a large collection of plants. His studies were soon extended to mineralogy, conchology, chemistry, electricity, and galvanism, and zoology in general. Not long after leaving the University, he published, in connection with a young friend, a "Treatise on Electricity," which was favorably received, and gave him a reputation as a man of science, and one destined to hold fellowship with our best scholars. He also studied law, and was licensed to practice; but instead of following the profession, he, in 1818, accepted a professorship in Nassau Hall, of chemistry, experimental philosophy, and natural history. After filling this chair for four years, with satisfaction to the institution and credit to himself, he removed to Philadelphia, where, on the establishment of the Jefferson Medical College, he was appointed Professor of Chemistry, and continued in the office to the close of his life. Beside his work on electricity, he published "Chemical Diagrams;" "Chemical Philosophy;" "A Treatise on Electro-Magnetism;" "Astronomical Recreations;" "A Syllabus of a Course of Chemistry;" two works on "Trilobites, with wax illustrations;" a work on the "Botany of the United States, with a List of the Botanical Productions of the State of New York;" "Notes of a Traveller, giving an Account of a Visit to Europe in 1828;" and a number of valuable articles scattered

through four or five volumes of Professor Silliman's Journal. Professor Green died February 1st, 1841, when in the midst of his useful labors, and in the freshness of his literary fame.

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## SAMUEL POWEL GRIFFITTS, M.D.

BY B. H. COATES, M.D.

SAMUEL POWEL GRIFFITTS, M.D., a physician, was born in this city, July 21st, 1759. His medical education was completed during his residence of three years in Europe. After his return, he practised more than forty years, till his death, May 12th, 1826, aged sixty-seven years. He was a Quaker, or Friend. Every morning he read the New Testament in Greek or Latin. He was seldom absent from religious meetings. During the prevalence of the yellow fever in various years he never deserted his post, yet he believed the fever to be contagious. The establishment of the Dispensary and other charitable societies were promoted by his efforts. He was one of the editors of "The Eclectic Repertory."

His father died when he was an infant: from his mother he received that education which qualified him so well, by the regular, moral, and religious habits it produced, for the exercise of a life of piety and usefulness. As he ripened in age, he grew convinced of the correctness, in principle and practice, of the Society of Friends; and soon became, as he continued till the day of his death, one of their most valued, consistent, useful, and influential members. He became an excellent classical scholar at the College of Philadelphia; acquiring a facility in speaking, and a correctness in criticising the Latin language, which was often admired, when, at a subsequent period, he attended the examination of the public schools under the care of Friends; and, in addition to the branches of study then universal among well-informed men, he acquired a high degree of proficiency in the French language.

Dr. Griffiths first applied himself to the study of medicine under the superintendence of Dr. Adam Kuhn, well known as a learned



pupil of the celebrated Linnæus, and then occupying the office of professor to a small class of materia medica and botany in the College of Medicine in this city. Between this respected teacher and his pupil ensued a friendship which time only confirmed and augmented.

Drs. Griffitts and Wistar, then both students, volunteered their professional assistance for the wounded at the battle of Germantown; an occasion on which their religious principles did not permit them to assume an authorized and formal charge. After remaining for some time with Dr. Kuhn, the young aspirant for medical honors found himself obliged, in conformity with the universal custom of the time, to proceed to Europe for the completion of his education. We had not then a University whose reputation stood upon that widely-extended and time-established basis, which now so fully commands the high respect of medical men and of the world at large. After completing a course at Montpellier, he made a tour through the south of France, returned to Paris, and subsequently proceeded to London, which he reached in June, 1783, soon after the acknowledgment of our Independence. In London he spent several months in study; and he afterwards repaired to Edinburgh, which had then attained the high eminence it has ever since enjoyed, owing at that time to the teachings of the celebrated Cullen. There, and at London, he continued till his return to Philadelphia, in the autumn of 1784; having thus spent three years in travelling from school to school for improvement in his profession.

The period when Dr. Griffitts thus returned to his native home, was the commencement of a series of unwearied, uninterrupted, unpretending labors, which entirely occupied the residue of his useful days.

In 1786 was founded the Philadelphia Dispensary; an institution in the service of which the subsequent branches which sprung from the same trunk, he was employed with an extraordinary perseverance, during the remainder of his long and laborious life. That Dr. Griffitts "was the first person who actively engaged in the establishment of a Dispensary in Philadelphia, rests upon the most respectable testimony."

In the short space of two weeks, among a population of about



40,000, there were obtained three hundred and twenty subscribers; and the Dispensary went early into operation, in which it has continued, without interruption, to the present time.

In the same year in which the Dispensary was established, he became an active member of the Humane Society; and was likewise chosen a member of the American Philosophical Society. In 1787, he became one of the original members of the College of Physicians, a body which, in 1817, honored him with its Vice-Presidency.

In 1787 also took place his marriage with Mary Fishbourne, daughter of William Fishbourne, merchant, of Philadelphia.

In 1790, he joined the Pennsylvania Abolition Society; and about the same time, the Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons.

In 1792, he was elected Professor of *Materia Medica* in the University of Pennsylvania, which situation he held with the highest credit and rapidly increasing usefulness for four years; after which he resigned.

The sufferings and forlorn situation of the unfortunate emigrants who arrived from St. Domingo, in the year 1793, deprived of their sometimes princely fortunes, and snatched or smuggled with difficulty from concealment from amidst their murdered relatives, to experience the evils of poverty in a foreign land, could not fail to awaken the most powerful sympathy in the breasts of our philanthropic townsmen. Accordingly, we find that he was conspicuous, not only in raising subscriptions, but in superintending their application.

Our account of the exertions of this virtuous man is drawing to a close. The last public event of any importance, in the bringing about of which he was concerned, was the production of the *American Pharmacopœia*.

In the month of May, 1826, he discovered alarming symptoms about the chest. These proved to be owing to an attack of *peripneumonia notha*, which hurried him off in less than an hour; no one but his family witnessing this real euthanasia.

## JOHN GUEST.

JOHN GUEST, one of the most upright and enterprising merchants ever resident in Philadelphia, was born in the city of Burlington, New Jersey, May 11th, 1768.

In 1800, he established the largest American house in Europe, and located its chief house in London, under the firm of John Guest & Co.; with a branch in Philadelphia, under the firm of Guest & Bancker; one at Baltimore, under the firm of Guest, Atterbury & Co.; besides others, at New York, Charleston, Pittsburg, &c. All the houses became embarrassed about the year 1810, owing to a bold and laudable speculation, founded upon information derived from the American minister, the Honorable William Pinckney, then residing in London. In anticipation of a war between America and England, Mr. Guest made large purchases of dry goods in England, Ireland, and Scotland, and shipped the chief part of them to the house in Philadelphia, when all of a sudden the affairs between England and America took a favorable pacific turn, and the news was received at Annapolis by the arrival of a British vessel called the Bramble, stating the fact, and causing all European goods to fall, even below their real value and the cost of importation. A large portion of these immense importations were hypothecated, and placed in the stores of Willing & Francis, as the agents of David Parrish, and a slight effort made to sustain the London house; goods still fell in price, and were greatly sacrificed as the time for their redemption arrived, and all hopes of upholding the concern was abandoned, and the several firms closed, yielding up to the London house enough to pay the English creditors something less than a dividend of twenty-five per cent. The partner in Philadelphia had taken care to pay all the American creditors in full. Vincent Nolte, in his "Fifty Years in both Hemispheres," says, "Mr. Parrish shows more ability in getting out of scrapes than in avoiding them." "Ah!" said he, "I see; you allude to the affair of Guest & Bancker. Let me tell you that I did not like it at all; and to tell the truth, it has had a most unfavor-

able and painful effect upon my mind. Here let the matter rest!" This was in a conversation that occurred between Mr. Nolte and Alexander Baring, respecting the then great banker, David Parrish.

The war of 1812 soon followed, and all that Mr. Pinckney promised Mr. Guest took place. During the embargo between the two countries goods advanced, but now they rose to extreme high prices; and if all the goods sacrificed by the different firms could have been retained to this period, and we undertake to say, understandingly, that they could, by securing the payment of the interest to the English loan creditors (there were no others), John Guest & Co. would have realized, after paying twenty shillings on the pound to all their creditors, almost millions of dollars, to be distributed among the different copartners, and the result of a great enterprise, carrying with it great credit for foresight, and the acme of commercial knowledge.

Mr. Guest married Miss Rebecca Hall, 15th of November, 1792. About the year 1816 he visited St. Domingo for the benefit of his health and on business purposes, where he lingered until the spring of 1817, when he died, leaving a numerous family, and a large circle of friends and relatives in the United States, in the forty-eighth year of his age.

John Guest was one of the great pioneers of the trade of Philadelphia; his enterprise and perseverance paved the way, half a century since, for the great business she now enjoys. No other American, in his time, obtained so extensive a credit in England; and no other commercial house ever carried on business upon so large a scale. His want of success was owing to a difference in a few months of time, founded upon almost a certain concatenation of events, that did take place, as his friend, Mr. Pinckney, had predicted.

In person, Mr. Guest was about six feet in height, inclining to stoop a little, of very prepossessing manners, with the polish of a true gentleman, and one of the first Americans who, at the beginning of the present century, was allowed to enter into the very first grade of English society in London. He commenced business with high hopes, and an energy that deserved success, if it did not command it.

## FRANCIS GURNEY.

FRANCIS GURNEY was born in Bucks County, in the then province of Pennsylvania, about the year 1738. He received the rudiments of an English education in a country school, near the place where he was born.

Young Gurney was inclined by nature to deeds of enterprise, hardihood, and valor. He manifested, from his early years, a strong predilection for the use and profession of arms; nor had he more than entered on the threshold of life when he was presented with an opportunity of gratifying to the utmost his favorite propensity. When he arrived at his eighteenth year, he found the embittered war of 1756 inundating in blood the northern section of the British provinces. He, accordingly, with a promptness and ardor peculiar to his temperament, volunteered his services in the Provincial army to aid in protecting his countrymen from the French bayonet and the Indian tomahawk. His place of destination was the frontiers of Canada, a region famous in history for its sanguinary wars, and the hardships to which troops are exposed when on service. It was here his fortune to participate in many of the dangers and exploits of the celebrated Putnam, and other officers of daring intrepidity. Being young, active, and emulous of distinction, he was engaged of choice in almost every spirited and gallant enterprise that was from time to time undertaken against the enemy.

Nor did he ever fail to act the part of a brave and determined high-minded soldier. Although he could not at all times command success, his prowess and conduct uniformly deserved it. Among other important services in which he was engaged, he bore his part in the capture of Cape Breton.

But it was not alone in the regions of the North, suffering from cold, and menaced by the hatchet and scalping-knife of the savage, that this brave Pennsylvanian served his country in the character of a soldier. Determined to pursue glory wherever she might lead the way, and, if possible, to weave for himself a chaplet from the



laurels of different climates, he embarked on board the British fleet destined to act against the French West India Islands. Here, neither the burning sun, nor the sultry and relaxing air of the tropics, was sufficient to subdue his spirit or unnerve his arm. The same energy and enterprisc which he had previously displayed at the taking of Cape Breton, and elsewhere on the continent, he manifested again at the capture of Guadaloupe.

The war being closed, his inclination led him to return to the enjoyment of peaceful and domestic scenes; for he felt now no disposition to follow arms as a profession for life. He accordingly settled in Philadelphia in the capacity of a merchant, where he pursued his business with industry and correctness, reputation and success, till the commencement of our Revolutionary War.

Ranking with the foremost in his attachment to liberty, and his abhorrence of everything that might tend to destroy it, he viewed with indignation the unhallowed attempts of the British ministry to trample on the rights of the infant colonies. He was not of that saturnine disposition which waits till it feels the lash of oppression. He was one of those discerning keen-sighted patriots who, in the language of an eloquent statesman, "augur misgovernment at a distance, and snuff the approach of tyranny in every tainted breeze." No less prompt to act than vigilant to discover, he was among the first to raise his voice and extend his arm in behalf of the invaded liberties of his country.

In the years 1774 and 1775, when opposition to the measures of the British Government began to be seriously meditated and organized, his public services in Philadelphia were above all price. His ardent and active disposition first contributed to rouse to resistance many of his less sensitive and energetic compatriots; and having no inconsiderable knowledge of tactics and arms, he was highly instrumental in the formation and disciplining of military corps. In these he refused at first to accept a commission, believing that he could render to his country higher services by continuing to act as a general and voluntary instructor of the duties of the soldier. His primary wish was—and in this he manifested that soundness of judgment for which he was remarkable—to see men of rank and fortune heartily and practically engaged in the cause. He was anxious to see them take that lead which their standing in society,



no less than their heavy stake in the approaching contest, so fairly entitled them, and which he considered essential to the success of our measures. To this end, he labored assiduously and with the happiest effect. Several gentlemen, who afterwards acquired a name in arms, among whom may be mentioned Mifflin, Cadwalader, Meredith, and others, were in no small degree indebted to him for their first appointment to military rank. When they became known, they were afterwards, on that ground, appointed to higher and more conspicuous stations.

At length, on the 25th May, 1775, Mr. Gurney was prevailed on to accept the commission of captain of infantry in a regiment of troops raised by authority of the Province of Pennsylvania. In the course of the following year he agreed to enter into the regular service, and was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel in the 11th Regiment of the Pennsylvania line. While in this command he was present at the battles of Ironhill, Brandywine, and Germantown; in each of which he behaved with his accustomed bravery, but had no opportunity of acquiring distinction. In the first of them he was slightly wounded in the foot.

Soon after this period, some irregularity having occurred on the score of promotion, to which he thought it dishonorable to submit, Colonel Gurney resigned his commission in the army, and returned once more to private life. Still, however, was his country benefited by his judgment and active services, he being immediately placed on the Committee of Safety for the city of Philadelphia, and also on that for the defence of the Delaware River and Bay. The vigilance and competency which he manifested under these appointments were important in their effects, and placed him high in the confidence of his fellow-citizens.

On the conclusion of the peace of 1783, he resumed his mercantile pursuits in Philadelphia, and continued in them, with great industry and merited success, till within a year or two of his death; when, owing to his advanced age, and the embarrassments of the times, he determined to abandon them. But, during this important period of his life, his attention was far from being devoted exclusively to his private concerns. Few inhabitants of Pennsylvania took a more active part in the management of the affairs of the city and the commonwealth. For nearly thirty years he was

constantly employed in the discharge of some public function, civil or military; nor was he ever found otherwise than industrious, competent, and faithful to the trust. He held, for several years, the appointment of Warden of the Port of Philadelphia, during which time he suggested, and had carried into effect, an important improvement in the buoys and beacons in the Delaware Bay. That establishment is much indebted to him for its present state of convenience and excellence. We state, on authority which we believe to be correct, that he was the inventor of something useful in the construction of the buoys and beacons now in use, but more particularly of a new and highly improved mode of securing them.

He was, for a while, one of the Aldermen of the city, and served a long time in the City Councils, chiefly as President of the Select Council. He was, for several years in succession, elected a member of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, first to the House of Representatives, and afterwards to the Senate. In both bodies he became a leading character; for, although a man of great humility of pretensions, he acquired, by practice, a habit of speaking in public with facility and effect.

He was also, a considerable time ago, created a Trustee of Dickinson College, an appointment which he held at the time of his death. In all these situations he sustained the reputation of a man of integrity, firmness, and sound intelligence.

Such are, in part, the offices and employments of a civil nature, in which it was the good fortune of Mr. Gurney to render services to his fellow-citizens, and to acquire their esteem. On that of County Commissioner, Churchwarden, and Trustee or Director of various institutions, in which he promoted the interest of individuals, or of the city, we forbear to dwell. He was also among the most active, skilful, and indefatigable of the militia officers of the State. He bore a Colonel's commission from the 1st of May, 1786, to the month of March, 1799, when he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General.

The only active military service in which Mr. Gurney was engaged, subsequently to the close of the Revolutionary war, occurred in the year 1794, when a considerable force was called into the field to suppress an insurrection in the western part of Pennsylvania. The troops assembled, on that occasion, from Pennsylvania,

New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia, amounted to about fifteen thousand, rank and file. Mr. Gurney, in the capacity of Colonel, commanded the first Regiment of the Philadelphia Brigade, which, owing to his skill and attention, was, with the exception of Macpherson's Blues, a body composed of young gentlemen of family and education, who would have done honor to any service, the best disciplined and most effective corps in the field.

Colonel Gurney's command amounted, on this occasion, to about six hundred men, raw in service; their fatigues and exposures were great, and the weather was oftentimes tempestuous and inclement: notwithstanding this, he lost from sickness, we believe, but two men, during a campaign of three months' continuance. This fact must be regarded as a high eulogium on his attention to the accommodation and health of his troops.

Feeling somewhat, although but slightly for his age, the pressure of years, he had for some time before his death declined all participation in public employments. The evening of his life was retired and tranquil, rational and dignified; such as need not have caused a blush on the cheek of the best born citizen of Rome. It was passed in social intercourse, amusement from books, and the cultivation of a favorite country-seat in the vicinity of Philadelphia.

He died on the 25th May, 1815, after a severe and painful indisposition of one month, which he bore with fortitude and perfect resignation.

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## GODFREY HAGA.

GODFREY HAGA was born at Isingen, in Wirtemberg, on the 30th of November, 1747. Like many of his countrymen, he sought an escape from poverty by becoming a redemptioner; and as such came to Philadelphia, where his allotted period of service was sold to a tailor named Beck. Faithful in his calling, he honorably fulfilled his contract with his master, and by overwork was enabled to add to the comforts of a mother who remained in Germany.

In 1777, when this city was occupied by the British army, Mr. Haga retired to the interior, where he became acquainted with

Hannah Mozer, whom he subsequently married. This lady was the daughter of John Mozer, who was one of the Moravian emigrants of 1743, who had settled in Nazareth. She was born in that well-known Moravian village on the 3d of January, 1745, and for nearly forty years proved a worthy helpmate, contributing in no ordinary degree to the happiness and fortune of her husband.

Upon his return to the city, after its evacuation by the British, Mr. Haga, having accumulated a moderate capital, commenced the business of a grocer, in the house No. 87 (new No. 239), Race Street. His business lay with the steady German population of the eastern counties. Diligence and economy, and the exercise of a sound judgment, were attended by prosperity; and, in 1793, he retired from the successful establishment which he had founded, and was succeeded by Frederick Boller and John Jordan, who had received their excellent training in his counting-house. It is an honorable and rare instance of the permanency of fortune resulting from an adherence to correct principles, that now, after the lapse of eighty years, this business is still continued by a son of one of Mr. Haga's successors.

The withdrawal of Mr. Haga from this establishment was not with a view to retire from the active pursuits of life, for he immediately engaged in a general mercantile business, adding to the importation of German goods, extensive and lucrative transactions with South America and the West Indies. Forming a connection with John Boller, under the firm of Godfrey Haga & Co., they became owners of ships, and Mr. Haga's wealth steadily and greatly increased, until, finally, about 1814, he withdrew from all active business.

The first house in which Mr. Haga lived was in Race Street, in the same building, as was then the custom, in which was his store. In 1804 he bought the ample building, formerly of the estate of Robert Morris, at the southeast corner of Sixth and Market Streets, and resided there until its purchase, in 1815, by the Schuylkill Bank. Shortly before this period he became the owner of the "Gothic Mansion," and the extensive grounds connected therewith, on the north side of Chestnut Street above Twelfth, and occupied that striking and noted edifice until his death on the 7th of February, 1825, at the age of seventy-seven years.



The position of independence achieved by his industry and integrity, designated Mr. Haga as a suitable person to be one of the Directors of the Bank of Pennsylvania, which was chartered in 1793. In this position he continued until his death. He was also a Director in the North America Insurance Company, from its organization. In furtherance of his desire for the erection of works of public utility he became a stockholder in the first Lehigh Navigation Company, and was earnest in his labors in that important undertaking. For the space of forty years he was a Manager of the Philadelphia Dispensary. As a member of the Federal party, and in accordance with their custom of having the large German interest represented, he served the public in the Select Council from 1797 to 1800, and was twice elected, in 1800 and in 1801, to the State Legislature. Brought up a Lutheran, through the influence of his wife he became attached to the Moravian Church in Philadelphia, and, at an early period, was a communicant therein. For more than thirty years he served as a member of the Standing Committee of the Church, contributing largely by his purse and by his influence to its maintenance. When, in 1819, it became necessary to replace, by a more modern structure, the first church edifice, erected by Count Zinzendorff, in 1742, at the corner of Race and Bread Streets, he defrayed one-half of its cost.

To amend a deficient education, Mr. Haga was a constant reader, and the books which he perused were of such a varied and solid character as to forcibly exhibit not alone a love of literature, but also a real desire for the knowledge and wisdom which are stored in the works of eminent writers. His large experience of life thus chastened and softened by the best views of the best men, led him to indulge feelings, naturally very charitable and kindly, to a far greater extent than any one who had preceded him in good works in this city; for, during his life, as has been said by those who knew him best, he expended in gifts to relatives and in charitable purposes more than one hundred thousand dollars. The larger portion of this was during that period of his life intervening between the death of his wife, June the 11th, 1814, and his own demise, in 1825. Increasing years, and the infirmities attending them, and the long period of reflection after his retirement from active pursuits, did not in the least degree affect a resolution long formed, as



he had no direct heirs, not to enrich any person, but to bequeath his large estate to charitable uses. It was found by his will that his fellow-men were to participate in the benefits resulting from the bequest of an estate of more than three hundred thousand dollars, very nearly all of it left for public purposes, and, until that time, the largest which had been so left.

To relations and friends he made

One bequest of	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$8,000
One "	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	6,000
Two bequests, each of \$3,000,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	6,000
Nine " "	2,000,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	18,000
Nine " "	1,000,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	9,000
Two " "	750,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1,500
Four " "	500,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2,000
											<hr/>
											\$50,500

To the Contributors to the Pennsylvania Hospital, . . . . .	\$1,000
To the Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, . . . . .	1,000
To the Bible Society of Philadelphia, . . . . .	4,000
To the Northern Dispensary, . . . . .	1,000
To the Southern Dispensary, . . . . .	1,000
To the Orphan Society of Philadelphia, . . . . .	10,000
To the Indigent Widows' and Single Women's Society, . . . . .	5,000
To the United Brethren's Church, . . . . .	2,000
To the Bishop at Bethlehem, to be divided among superannuated Preachers and their Widows, &c., . . . . .	6,000
To the German Society, contributing for the relief of distressed Ger- mans in Pennsylvania, . . . . .	2,000
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	\$33,000

The residue of Mr. Haga's estate, estimated at more than two hundred and twenty thousand dollars, was bequeathed in his own words as follows:—

"All the rest and residue of the moneys arising from the sale of my said estate and property (after payment of my debts, funeral expenses, &c., and the legacies hereinbefore mentioned given and bequeathed), I give and bequeath unto 'The Society of the United Brethren for Propagating the Gospel among the Heathen,'—of which I am a member—in trust, to place and continue out at interest forever, the sum of \$20,000 part thereof; the interest arising thereon to be applied for educating at Nazareth Hall, from time to time,

pious young men for the Gospel ministry and for missionary purposes, which young men, and also their number, shall, from time to time, be approved of by the Bishops for the time being of the Brethren's Church at Bethlehem; and to apply or expend the residue of the moneys, and the interest thereof, for the purpose of enlarging the schools in the Indian countries in North America and elsewhere; for furnishing or providing books, diet, and clothing for such children whose parents are unable to supply them; and for the instruction of persons for schoolmasters and schoolmistresses in the Seminary of Nazareth and Bethlehem, for those schools, as the said Society shall deem proper."

Mr. Haga appointed his friends the Rev. Philip F. Mayer, John Jordan, Isaac Wampole, and Charles H. Baker, all of the city of Philadelphia, executors of his will and testament.

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## PETER HAGNER.

PETER HAGNER, distinguished for his long connection with the United States Government at Washington, was born in Philadelphia October 1st, 1772, and was educated at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1793, when only twenty years of age, he received from President Washington an appointment in the office of Accountant of War; was afterwards appointed Assistant to the Accountant of War; and, in 1816, was commissioned as Additional Accountant of War, upon the creation of that office. In 1817, Congress established the office of Third Auditor, and Mr. Hagner was selected by President Monroe to discharge its responsible and arduous duties. This office he held until the year 1849, having served under every President of the United States from Washington to Taylor; and it was with great reluctance that his resignation, which had been repeatedly tendered, was accepted. During this long period of service, comprising fifty-seven years, he was eminently distinguished for modesty, integrity, industry, unwavering devotion to the interests of the Government, and impartial justice. The vast importance of the office of Third Auditor can only be

properly estimated by those who are familiar with its details. In addition to the duties which devolved upon Mr. Hagner in the regular administration of his office, he was repeatedly directed by Acts of Congress to settle, at his discretion, large and important claims not connected with it, but which were referred to him, in the fullest confidence that justice would be done to all parties concerned. The satisfaction which he gave in the discharge of these multiplied labors, and the exalted appreciation entertained of his distinguished worth, were manifested throughout his whole career by the approbation of each successive President, by the favorable testimony of committees and members of Congress, and, on two occasions, by direct votes of that body. Mr. Hagner died at Washington City, July 16th, 1849, aged seventy-seven years.

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## JOHN E. HALL.

JOHN E. HALL was born December, 1783. He was educated at Princeton, read law with Judge Hopkinson, was admitted to practice in 1805, and removed to Baltimore. He published "The American Law Journal," in Philadelphia, from 1808 to 1817. He was elected Professor of Rhetoric and Belles-Lettres in the University of Maryland. He collected and arranged an edition of "The British Spy," to which he contributed several letters, much to the gratification of Wirt, the author. When the Baltimore riot broke out, in 1811, he was one of the party of Federalists who aided in defending Hanson's house, and was one of the nine thrown on a heap as killed. He left Baltimore soon afterwards, removing to Philadelphia, where he assumed the editorship of "The Portfolio," in 1806. The "Memoirs of Anacreon," in that journal, were from his pen. They were a reproduction, on this thread of narrative, of Grecian manners and customs, supposed to be written by Critias, of Athens; and the author was stimulated to their composition by the approval of the poet Moore, who was then creating a sensation in the literary circles of Philadelphia. Mr. Hall was the author of the Life prefixed to the poems of his friend, Dr. John Shaw, pub-

lished in Baltimore in 1810. In 1827, he edited, with biographical and critical notes, "The Philadelphia Souvenir," a collection of fugitive pieces from the press of that city. The editor's part is written with spirit. In the same year was published in Philadelphia, in an octavo volume, "Memoirs of Eminent Persons, with Portraits and Fac-Similes, written and in part selected by the Editor of the Portfolio." In consequence of his declining health, "The Portfolio" was discontinued in 1827. He died June 11th, 1829, in the forty-sixth year of his age.

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## JOHN HALLOWELL.

BY THE HON. GEORGE M. STROUD.

AMONG the early emigrants from England to Pennsylvania was John Hallowell, of Nottinghamshire. He settled at Darby (now the county of Delaware), A.D. 1682. He was of the same religious faith as the founder of Pennsylvania, and must have come over to this country at least as soon, and probably a little before, Penn himself.

Whether he was married before he left England, or after his arrival here, is not certainly known; but the records of the Friends' Meeting, at Darby, show that his eldest son, also named John, was born at that place, February 10, 1685. The latter had a son born also at Darby in 1715, who moved to the city of Philadelphia prior to 1738. He had several children, one only of whom was a son; he was called Israel, and was born in the city of Philadelphia in 1743. Israel was brought up to the trade of a carpenter, which he followed for some years, and until, by a severe fall upon the ice, he was so injured that he became incurably lame, and was compelled to abandon his trade. His death was occasioned, or at least hastened, by this injury, although it did not occur till 1790, a considerable number of years afterwards. Israel was the father of John Hallowell, the subject of this memoir, who was born in Philadelphia, September 10, 1768.

The several generations of the Hallowells, which have been mentioned, were members of the Society of Friends.

At what time, or under what circumstances, John Hallowell, the emigrant, became a member of the Society, whether he was the first of his name and family who belonged to it, or whether his father had preceded him as such, is not known.

His wife was, most probably, a member of this Society also. She was certainly of Protestant descent; for she possessed an old English black-letter quarto Bible, of the version authorized by King James I, strongly bound with leather and brass bands, clasps, and rests, bearing the imprint 1642, and containing, at the end, of corresponding size, "The Booke of Psalmes, collected into English Meeter, by Thomas Sternehold, John Hopkins, and others, conferred with the Hebrew, with apt notes to sing them withal," &c. This bears date 1641. From the fact of the annexation of this version of the Psalms in this careful method of preservation, it is probable that her father, whose name was Thomas Sharp, was a member of the Church of England. There are memoranda, on a blank leaf of this Bible, tracing up its ownership from Thomas Sharp, and successively to the several generations of his descendants, through his daughter, to the time of the last mentioned John Hallowell. It is now in the possession of his children.

Israel Hallowell, with his family, a wife and three sons, continued to reside in this city, throughout the War of Independence, at the place which he had previously occupied, pursuing, amid the stirring events of the times, the quiet, unoffending course of life, which has generally distinguished the members of the religious body to which he belonged. The only special annoyance which his family sustained, during that period, was from the presence of several officers of the British army, who were quartered upon them whilst the enemy held possession of the city. The inconvenience of providing for their table would have been patiently borne, but the late hours which they kept, and their roistering habits, whilst necessarily submitted to, were felt to be an almost intolerable grievance.

William Penn, and the members of his sect who came over with him, were sedulous to promote literary and scientific, as well as good moral education. As early as 1689, what Proud, in his



"History of Pennsylvania," denominates "Friends' Public School," was established in this city. It was incorporated by Deputy Governor Markham in 1697, and confirmed by patent from William Penn in 1701. In 1708, another patent was granted by Penn, whereby the corporation was "forever thereafter to consist of fifteen discreet and religious persons, of the people called Quakers, by the name of the Overseers of the Public School, founded in Philadelphia, at the request, cost, and charges of the people called Quakers." A still later charter, dated November 29, 1711, was granted by Penn, by which he confirmed the preceding charters, and conferred large additional powers and privileges.

This corporation still subsists. Its government is vested in members of the Society of Friends, and must, by the terms of its charter, always remain so. But it is open to pupils of each sex, of every class and condition of life, irrespective of religious creed. It has always been wisely and liberally administered, and is an enduring monument of the philanthropic spirit of genuine Quakerism.

Distinct schools have been established under this corporation. In some, the usual branches of a good English education only are taught. At one of these, John Hallowell was placed. At that time it was under the charge of an Englishman, a member of the Society of Friends, possessing but a very moderate share of the calmness, and prudence, and reasonableness for which this sect is so remarkable.

Much allowance ought certainly to be made for "that terrible man, John Todd," from the sentiments, and practices, and institutions of the day in which he lived. Criminals, even for petty offences, were then daily spectacles in the pillory and the stocks, and were publicly and unmercifully whipped. A whipping-post was deemed an essential accompaniment to a court of justice. Soldiers (for the powers of government had before this time passed from the Society of Friends) were openly flogged with cat-o'-nine tails, almost every morning, in the vicinity of military stations. The manners of a people could scarcely fail to be brutalized by such exhibitions. The law sanctioned them, and with the mass of mankind, whatever is lawful is regarded as right. If a court of justice, day after day, should sentence for petty crimes wretched culprits to be publicly whipped, by so many stripes "on the bare back, well

laid on," what wonder that a fretful pedagogue should imitate its example! The strangest of all is, that "the fifteen discreet and religious overseers" should tolerate his daily doings.

Watson, in his "Annals," has perpetuated, by a very graphic description of a contemporary of John Todd,—a pupil, no doubt,—the mode and severity of corporal punishment at this school. Several of the pupils of Todd used occasionally to meet with Judge Hallowell in the latter part of his life. Their comparison of notes furnished abundant verification of the reminiscences of "Auld Lang Syne," from whose contributions to Poulson's American Advertiser, Watson derived his information.

As an addition to the incidents which "Auld Lang Syne" has related of John Todd's school, Judge Hallowell, and his brother-in-law, Mr. William Parker, both of whom had been pupils there, used to give a narrative of this kind.

There was a mischievous boy, named Jack Shay, who had a large mop of carrotty hair, which Todd was in the habit of grasping, either as a punishment in itself, or as a means of enabling him to inflict his favorite discipline of the strap. Jack, about the time of closing the school one afternoon, perpetrated some act for which he knew the severe John would incontinently punish him on the very first opportunity. To prepare for this, Jack contrived, in the interval of the school, to have the hair of his head closely cropped. The moment that he entered the school he was pounced upon by the severe disciplinarian, when behold, as the hat was pulled off, Jack's shorn head was seen. There was a burst of laughter throughout the school. Todd himself was perhaps amused, for he turned to Jack and said, "You have got the advantage of me this time;" and so let him go scot free.

It must have been no small relief to a boy of thirteen or fourteen years of age, in whose character the brave and daring was not an element, to be transferred from the stormy atmosphere of John Todd to the serene firmament of Friends' Academy.

Friends' Academy, or, as Proud styles it, Friends' Grammar School, dated its origin as far back as 1689. George Keith, of controversial memory, was its first teacher. He was succeeded by Thomas Mackin, who had been his usher, who was undoubtedly an

excellent Latin scholar, and an enthusiastic admirer of Penn's Colony.

In 1761, Robert Proud became the teacher of the Grammar School, which seems to have been generally known afterwards as Friends' Academy. He continued there to the commencement of the war of Independence. This event led to a suspension of his labors in this vocation for several years. Watson, in his "Annals," states that he did not resume them until the restoration of peace in 1783. But this is a mistake. The exact time of his resumption was April 24, 1780.

Proud had been a competent and acceptable teacher, and although of rather stately carriage, seems to have secured the affection and respect of his pupils. Upon his resignation of the charge of the Academy in 1791, many of his pupils of former years joined together, and contributed annually, for the remainder of his life, an honorable and comfortable support. John Hallowell was one of this number. How long he continued under Proud's instruction is not exactly known. He completed his education at the University of Pennsylvania.

During the time when he was a pupil at the University of Pennsylvania, there were two clergymen of the same surname, Davidson, who were successively Professors of the Greek and Latin Languages in that institution. The elder, and more distinguished of the two, was James Davidson, the author of a Latin Grammar, which, for many years, was almost the only one in use in the schools of this city. All who have seen it will remember the peculiar skill which the author exhibits in stringing together English and Latin words, so as to produce lines terminating in corresponding sounds.

The chief object of these rhymes was to impress upon the memory of the pupil the exceptions to the general rules of grammar; and, for that purpose, it was certainly a great help. Judge Hallowell, like many others, taught upon the same system, could repeat, late in life, many of these rhymes with great facility.

The other Mr. Davidson was Robert. He was a graduate of the College in 1771. The College, it is well known, was dissolved by the Legislature in 1779, and the University of Pennsylvania established in its stead. Robert Davidson was chosen Professor of the Latin and Greek Languages in 1780 (January 26th), and held this

office until July 2d, 1782, when he was appointed Professor of History. He retained the latter professorship until August 4th, 1784.\*

James Davidson succeeded Robert, as Professor of Languages, in 1782. The two Professors seem to have had a similar propensity to impart instruction through the medium of rhymes. Robert composed and published a Rhyming Geography, under the name of "Geography Epitomized." At the occurrence of the trivial incident which we are about to relate, this Rhyming Geography had not been printed. The Professor, in imitation of the bards of old, used to instruct his pupils by repeating to them, saying or singing, at least with a strong nasal twang, from his unpublished manuscript, or, perhaps, from his mental repository. On one of these occasions, whilst the class, to which John Hallowell belonged, was in attendance, the Professor gave utterance to the following lines:—

"The high tow'ring Pyramids seem to deride  
The boldest productions of modern pride."

The pupil smiled. The Professor asked him to produce something better, if he could. He made the effort thus:—

"The high tow'ring Pyramids seem to deride  
All monuments else of ambition and pride."

This was a rare competition; and it must be left to those who

\* I have mentioned, with more particularity than was requisite, the dates of the appointments of the two Davidsons as Professors in the University of Pennsylvania. My reason for this is, that the two are sometimes confounded, each having held the same professorship. The Catalogue of the officers and graduates, &c., of the University, shows nothing of the appointment of Robert as Professor of History, whilst it retains him as Professor of Languages from 1780 to 1792. According to the Catalogue of Dickinson College, the same Robert Davidson became a Professor of History and Geography there in 1785, and was connected with that College (a part of the time as President *pro tem.*) for many years.

As respects James Davidson, he was Professor of Languages in the College of Philadelphia from 1768, to its dissolution, in 1779. The last two of these years, however, his connection was merely nominal; for, when the British troops entered Philadelphia, in September, 1777, he fled, taking his family first to Chester County; and, soon afterwards, on invitation of some of his old pupils, he went to Charleston, South Carolina, where he taught an Academy, until, in 1780, he was driven from there also by the entry of the British. I believe it will be found that he returned to Philadelphia; and when, in 1782, Robert Davidson was made a Professor of History, James was elected to succeed him as Professor of the Greek and Latin Languages.



have nothing else to do to decide upon the relative merits of the contestants. The Professor preferred the pupil's substitute; and when, in 1784, he published his work, adopted it.

To which of these institutions—the Friends' Academy, or the University of Pennsylvania—he was most indebted, is equally uncertain; but a very retentive memory, by which he was distinguished, and a high relish for classical literature, which he retained through life, enabled him to acquire a considerable proficiency in the dead languages, especially in the Latin.

On quitting the University, which he did, according to the bad fashion of that day, at the immature age of seventeen, he was entered as a student of law in the office of the late Miers Fisher. Mr. Fisher was one of his own sect; and, of course, opposed to war. He was in extensive practice at the Bar when the Declaration of Independence was made. But its sound was ungrateful to his ear; 1st, because it was the sure precursor of a bloody strife, which his religious principles condemned; and 2dly, he was a loyal subject of King George, and his feelings were not at all in sympathy with the brave spirits of that day. The result was, he fell under strong suspicion of disaffection, if not downright opposition, to the cause of his country. He withdrew from practice at the Bar, and betook himself, as he used to say (borrowing from Sir William Blackstone), like Sir Orlando Bridgman and Sir Geoffrey Palmer, in the days of Cromwell, to the business of conveyancing. Mr. Fisher was, without doubt, a very good conveyancer; and having, after the peace, returned to the Bar, and resumed practice, his office was a most desirable school for an industrious student of law.

On the 17th of March, 1788, before he had completed his twentieth year, John Hallowell was admitted to practice as an Attorney of the Court of Common Pleas of his native city and county. His business, from the first, was quite encouraging; and, although not exactly in the condition, which, in England, has been said to be essential to success at the Bar—not to be worth a shilling—yet the death of his father, within less than a year after the son had become of age, left him to struggle in life with a very small patrimony. His mother, a prudent and affectionate woman, survived her husband; and she and her three sons were enabled, chiefly by his exer-



tions in his profession, to continue together, and enjoy the comforts and advantages of a happy home.

On the 10th of November, 1795, his practice having become sufficient to support a family respectably, he was married to Rebecca Parker, the youngest of seven children, who had been rendered orphans, deprived of both parents, whilst she was a very few years old. She was the daughter of Richard Parker, a lineal descendant of Richard Parker, who came from Nottinghamshire, England, to this country in the same vessel which brought over the first mentioned John Hallowell in 1682, and with him settled at Darby. She was a few years younger than her husband, of excellent intellectual endowments, which had been cultivated with more than ordinary care and judgment. She was of a sprightly disposition, and fluent in conversation, with great decision of character. Her family connections were numerous, respectable, and influential among men of business, and gave their cordial and valuable support to her husband. His practice became more and more extensive and lucrative; so that, after a few years, he changed his residence from Walnut Street (at the present time opposite the Merchants' Exchange) to a much larger house, at the southeast corner of Chestnut and Fifth Streets.

This locality, from its proximity to the courts, was much more convenient to him, especially as at that time, and for some years afterwards, the General Law Library of the Bar was small, and it was the custom of lawyers to cite and read without stint, both on trials before a jury and in law arguments, as well from elementary treatises as reported decisions. When, therefore, an important cause had been fixed for trial, servants, or porters, with huge baskets of law books on their shoulders, were sure to be seen, following the advocates on their way to the court-house.

After having served for several terms in the City Councils, Mr. Hallowell was elected, in the fall of 1815, a member of the House of Representatives of the State Legislature.

Having but a small family, his wife and two daughters, they spent the greater part of the session with him at Harrisburg. This arrangement, whilst it conduced to diminish the discomforts of so long a residence out of his native city, was but an imperfect substitute for the solid enjoyments to which he had been accustomed

at home, surrounded by warm friends, many of whom he had known from his boyhood. He declined to be a candidate for reelection, which, as a matter almost of course, was proffered to him.

On his return from Harrisburg, not feeling the necessity of pursuing the practice of his profession to the extent which he had done formerly, he contented himself by retaining the business of his old clients.

The Hon. Jacob Rush, President of the Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of Philadelphia, died on the 5th of January, 1820, and, on the 19th of the same month, John Hallowell received a commission to be his successor. He was conducted into office on the 22d, with a large attendance of the Bar, and honored by the presence of Chief Justice Tilghman, before whom he made a short address after the fashion of the olden time, when ceremony was regarded as substance. Nowadays, when the term of judicial office has been reduced to a few years, such a solemnity would be out of keeping, and never takes place.

The Court of Common Pleas had been relieved almost entirely by the establishment of the District Court, in 1811, of its jurisdiction in civil actions. It retained, however, the important business of an Orphans' Court, and the criminal authority of the Courts of Oyer and Terminer and Quarter Sessions of the Peace.

This combined jurisdiction was onerous and highly responsible. As to criminal business, the previous training of Judge Hallowell at the Bar had not qualified him for its ready discharge, and it was withal very distasteful to him. Being very deliberate in all his movements, and his associates on the Bench not being lawyers, the sense of the community and his own sense of duty, compelled him, as had been the case with his predecessors, to be present, if possible, at every session of the Court from its opening till its close.

This incessant pressure bore heavily upon him, and the prolongation of his connection with this Court would, most probably, have incapacitated him for the performance of judicial business altogether. This was his own judgment, and the apprehension of those who knew him best and loved him most.

At the session of the Legislature of 1824-25, the District Court for the City and County of Philadelphia, which had been, at the first, constituted for but a few years, and had afterwards, in like

manner, been continued on several occasions, being about to expire, a further Act of Assembly was passed, extending it for seven years. Judge Hallowell was then upwards of fifty-six years of age, and finding that it was within his power to exchange the Presidency of the Court of Common Pleas for a Judgeship in the District Court, although the office he held was on the tenure of good behavior, and nominally of greater dignity, yet his decided predilection for the business of the District Court, joined to the circumstances that the Judges with whom he would be there associated, were required to be by the constitution of the Court, and were in fact, learned in the law, and personally agreeable to him, he gladly availed himself of the opportunity, and was accordingly commissioned by Governor Shulze, April 22d, 1825, and took his seat.

The labors of a Judge of the District Court were, at that time, compared with what had been required of the President of the Common Pleas, and with what have been performed since 1835 by the Judges of the District Court, very light. There were then as now three law Judges. But the Act of 1825 permitted but one Court to be open for jury trials at a time, and authorized this to be held by a single Judge. The result was that a term of three months was divided as to jury trials into three periods of three weeks each, and the remaining four weeks were appropriated to sittings in banc for arguments. In banc, all the Judges attended, but with proper diligence, the argument list might be disposed of within a much shorter time than four weeks.

Enjoying good health, and having moved from the city to a country place a few miles distant, which he had recently built upon and much improved, his position on the bench of the District Court was well suited to his qualifications and his tastes. He continued to discharge the duties of this office in the possession of almost uninterrupted health until November 20th, 1832, when he experienced a gentle warning by a slight paralysis that he had entered on the evening of his day. For nearly three months, by the advice of his physician, he abstained from the performance of official duty. Towards the close of this recess, he attended at court, took his accustomed seat, but remained there a very short time. The business of the court by tacit consent was temporarily suspended, whilst the members of the Bar gathered around him, warmly testifying their

kindness and respect. He returned home serious, if not sad, and satisfied that his own reputation and the public good demanded his retirement from office, he transmitted his resignation to the Governor. He was then upwards of sixty-four years of age.

On the 10th of July, 1834, he arose, in apparent health, at an early hour, as had long been his practice. But before the usual hour of breakfast had arrived, whilst he was alone and actually employed in shaving himself, he suffered from a second visitation of paralysis.

His speech had been, in a very slight degree, affected by the first attack. An increased difficulty of vocal utterance was the peculiar, if not the only, perceptible effect of the second. His ability to move from place to place on foot, was impaired but little, if at all. His general health was good.

Before many weeks his disease exhibited a new phase. His mind had all along been clear, and it remained so. The organs of speech regained, in a great measure, if not wholly, their former vigor. But they were not subject to his will, in regard to visible and tangible objects. He could not pronounce the name of anything of this description. It might be within his vision, close at hand,—subject, at the moment, to his touch,—yet he could not utter a word to express what it was. At the same time, he could speak with facility and correctness of abstract ideas, of things not the objects of the outward senses. He would speak of the process by which anything was performed, or the reason why it ought not to be attempted, although the moment before he had labored, until he was discouraged and desisted, to name some familiar article which was near him, and at which he was looking and pointing. Similar exhibitions were daily, not to say hourly, occurrences.

Surrounded by his family, to whom he was tenderly attached, with occasional visits to and from his old friends, with no settled occupation, but employed chiefly in walking leisurely about his grounds, and in reading his favorite authors, he remained with no perceptible change in bodily or mental faculties, until on awaking, on the morning of the 17th of April, 1838, he found that he had become so disabled by a third paralysis, that he could not rise from his bed. His mind measurably, no doubt, sympathized with his body, yet it retained much of its strength: his memory, in par-



ticular, was strong and constant in everything except the names of visible objects. And thus he continued, calm, gentle, affectionate, and uncomplaining, for precisely three-fourths of a year. He died on the 17th of January, 1839, in the seventy-first year of his age.

In stature, Judge Hallowell was below the middle size. His complexion was florid. Before he was thirty years old, his hair, of which he had a large supply up to the time of his death, had become somewhat gray; and at forty was almost white. He had a tendency to corpulency from early manhood, and this increased as he advanced in age. He had the good sense not to be at all disturbed by the impression which this made upon others. He was indeed highly amused at a reference to his size, which occurred, as he was accustomed to relate it, in this way. Being on a visit to New York, he walked out in the morning, and stopped at a barber's shop to be shaved. A French boy undertook to officiate for him, and whilst occupied, made a remark which implied that he had seen him before. "Why, you don't know me," said the Judge. "I don't live here. I live in Philadelphia." "Yes, sir," replied the boy, "I know you. You were here last year, and a man be very stupid who see you once and not know you afterwards; you be so fine fat looking."

Judge Hallowell was at all times fond of a class of books which tended to cheer, but did not exact close attention. His memory was uncommonly retentive, and stored with recollections of poetry and classical literature generally. He had always at command, and ready for use at every fitting occasion, apt quotations, which seemed made to order, and to come forth at his bidding. I remember, shortly after I began the study of the law, I attended a sitting at Nisi Prius, before Chief Justice Tilghman, to witness the trial of a cause in which William Lewis, with Judge Hallowell, was counsel for an Insurance Company. Mr. Lewis, who, in the prime of manhood, had perhaps no equal, and certainly no superior at the Bar, was then in the decline of life, enfeebled in body, but, when roused, capable of great mental exertion. The introduction of the evidence had consumed much time, and the weather was rather warm. Mr. Lewis's voice was remarkable for its fulness and power. He was the concluding counsel for the defendant, and having spoken some ten or fifteen minutes, his strength seemed to give way, and he sank into his chair.



Business was suspended, the windows thrown open, and after half an hour's respite, he intimated his readiness to resume his address, but requested permission to retain his seat whilst he spoke. Of course this was acceded to at once by the court.

The loudness of his voice, the perspicuity of his arrangement, his ingenious application of the evidence, and the logical power which he displayed, soon satisfied every one that there was no ground to apprehend a sudden termination of his speech.

It was a strange spectacle. A tall, gaunt man, far advanced in years, with hair long and thin, a nose enormously aquiline, and a voice not rising in pitch, but swelling in volume as he became more and more warm and earnest, was *sitting down* and making brave defence for his client.

Whilst all were giving mute attention to the speaker, Judge Hallowell wrote upon a slip of paper, and handed it to his neighbor, who read and passed it round the table,—

“For Withrington needs must I wail,  
As one in doleful dumps,  
For when his legs were smitten off,  
He fought upon his stumps.”

Having lived to a good old age, respectable and respected, it is fit to depict, in a brief way, his public and private character.

As a *member of the Bar*, he made no pretensions to oratory. But he was careful to acquaint himself with the facts and the law of the case ; and a clear, simple, unaffected mode of address gave to his clients full advantage both with the jury and the court.

As a *Judge*, he was patient, industrious, and impartial. No one ever complained that he had not before him a fair and full hearing. He listened attentively, took copious notes, and, as he seldom, except in matters of little moment, decided on the spur of the occasion, his decisions were the result of a laborious and protracted investigation.

A very deliberate mode of transacting business of every kind was suited to his native cast of mind, fostered by his education and associations, and coincided entirely with his judgment.

He had begun his career at the Bar when the business of the court was small and in the hands of a few. These gentlemen,

deservedly eminent in their profession, as they unquestionably were, seem to have formed a very imperfect estimate of the value of *time*. Lawyers, indeed, then spoke of the *hurry of a trial* more, perhaps, than they do now. But there was no such thing *in this city as the hurry of a trial* anterior to the days of Judge Hallowell, nor during his time. He had been educated in the opposite school at the Bar, and he carried his sentiments into practice on the Bench.

As a member of the community in which he lived, he was as ready as any one of his means, to further public enterprises designed to promote the interest or happiness of his fellow-citizens.

In his more private relations he was a warm and constant friend. It would be difficult to find any one more willing to assist by his counsel or his purse those whom he knew and esteemed: and the circle of these was not a small one.

For many years he was in the practice of keeping a record of the deaths of those of whom he possessed any knowledge. In regard to the companions of his youth, as one by one they were summoned away, he took special note of his life, and at the earliest suitable time afterwards, was almost sure to visit the survivors of the family. A widow or a child of such a one left destitute, or in straitened circumstances, might confidently rely upon his solace and succor.

His moral character was always fair. He had a deep reverence for religion. From temperament, or some other cause, he had a very strong fear of death. The moment of dissolution—the instant of separation between the soul and body—seemed to be regarded by him with unusual terror. This continued to distress him occasionally until a few years before his decease. Impaired health and consequent retirement from the world, induced reflection, which, with increased religious light, overcame his former apprehensions altogether. He conversed of death with perfect composure; and, when his days were numbered, he met it with a calm and hopeful spirit.

## ANDREW HAMILTON.

MR. HAMILTON was an eminent lawyer of Philadelphia, who died August 4th, 1741. He had been Speaker of the House of Assembly, but he resigned this office in 1739, on account of his age and infirmities. He filled several stations with honor, integrity, and ability. In Zengers's trial, at New York, he acquired much reputation as a lawyer. His son, James Hamilton, was repeatedly Governor of Pennsylvania, between the years 1748 and 1771.

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## JAMES HAMILTON.

JAMES HAMILTON, the subject of this brief notice, was born in Chestnut Street, near Third Street, in a house called "Clarke's Hall." His education was begun in Philadelphia and completed in England. At the death of his father, in 1741, he was left in possession of a handsome fortune, and in the appointment of Prothonotary, then the most lucrative office in the province.

In 1747, he was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Pennsylvania; and, being the first native Governor, and having much of that integrity, wisdom, and dignity, which best fitted the station, he became a very popular officer. It was against the wishes of all parties that he resigned his commission in 1754, and still more against his own inclinations that, when in England, in 1759, he was prevailed upon again to accept the office. In 1763, he yielded his place to John Penn, retaining, however, his place at the Council Board, but otherwise retiring from public life.

He was always a liberal supporter of all public and useful measures and improvements. He gave a strong impulse to the College, assisted Benjamin West in his early efforts, and had his own full-length portrait executed by him. He had inherited from his

father a strong attachment to the Penn family and their interests, strengthened also by the marriage of his niece to John Penn, the Governor. He had also loyal feelings to the Crown. It consequently followed that he was unfriendly to the Revolution, but quietly submitted for a season to what he could not control. He died soon after the peace, at an advanced age.

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## WILLIAM HAMILTON.

WILLIAM HAMILTON was a native of Philadelphia, and a man of very great wealth. He owned the ground upon which the city of Lancaster is built, besides very valuable real property in and around Philadelphia, and resided at the Woodlands, on the banks of the Schuylkill. He was an eminent botanist, and fond of conviviality. Being supposed to have espoused the cause of Great Britain against the Colonies, and, after the commencement of the war, having ceased to attend the meetings of "The Society of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick," we find the following entry upon the minutes of the meeting on the 17th June, 1782: "Upon motion made and seconded, Resolved, That the vote of this Society be taken at the next meeting whether William Hamilton, Esq., shall be longer considered an honorary member of this Society." And at the meeting on the 17th September, 1782, the following: "The vote being taken, agreeably to the resolve of last meeting, respecting William Hamilton, Esq., the members met, having considered the circumstances respecting this gentleman, and particularly having observed that he hath not attended any of the meetings of the Society since the anniversary, 1774, though he hath been regularly notified of all the meetings since held, we therefore presume it is either inconvenient or not agreeable to his own inclinations to attend, and therefore vote that he be no longer considered as an honorary member of the Society." Mr. Hamilton was afterwards tried at Philadelphia for treason, but acquitted. He died, about the year 1824, at the Woodlands, Philadelphia.

## DR. ROBERT HARE.

DR. ROBERT HARE was born in Philadelphia, January 17th, 1781, and died May 15th, 1858, in his seventy-eighth year. His father was an Englishman, a man of strong mind, and honored in his adopted country by the public confidence. His mother was from a distinguished Philadelphia family. In early life he managed the business of an extensive brewery which his father had established; but his strong leaning towards physical science very early manifested itself, and soon led him to abandon the pursuits of a manufacturer, and devote his talents and fortune to science. Before the age of twenty, he gave evidence of this predilection for scientific pursuits by following the courses of lectures on chemistry and physical science in his native city, and by uniting himself with the Chemical Society of Philadelphia, then embracing the names of Priestley, Sybert, and Woodhouse.

In 1801, he communicated to this Society a description of the oxyhydrogen blowpipe, which he then called a "hydrostatic blowpipe." Professor Silliman, having been much engaged with him in a series of experiments with this instrument in 1802-3, subsequently distinguished it as the "compound blowpipe," having, in fact, on his return from Philadelphia, in 1803, constructed for the laboratory of Yale College the first pneumatic trough combining Dr. Hare's invention; an apparatus subsequently figured and described by Dr. Hare in his memoir "on the fusion of strontia and volatilization of platinum."\* His memoir to the Chemical Society was separately published in 1801, and was republished in Tilloch's *Phil. Mag.*, London, 1802, and also in the *Annales de Chimie* (1st series), v, 45.

This apparatus was the earliest, and perhaps the most remarkable of his original contributions to science. It was certainly evidence of a highly philosophical mind, that Dr. Hare, in that comparatively early period in modern chemistry, and when the received notions

\* *Trans. Am. Phil. Soc.* vol. vi, p. 99, and plate 3 (June 17, 1803).



of the true nature of combustion were so vague, not to say erroneous, should have had the acumen to conceive that a stream of oxygen and hydrogen burning together should produce so intense a heat. Lavoisier, certainly one of the most acute of chemical philosophers, and unsurpassed in his skill as an experimentalist, had beaten up the same path so far as to direct a jet of oxygen upon charcoal, and he thus produced a degree of heat by which he fused alumina and other bodies before deemed infusible. He had even brought the elements of water into the same vessel, and had there burned them from separate jets, in his famous apparatus for the recomposition of water. But it seems never to have occurred to him that here was a source of heat greater than any then known. In our view, Dr. Hare's merit as a scientific philosopher is more clearly established upon this discovery than upon any other of the numerous contributions he has made to science. His original experiments were repeated in 1802-3, in presence of Dr. Priestley, the discoverer of oxygen, then on a visit to Philadelphia, and of Silliman, Woodhouse, and others. They were subsequently greatly extended by Professor Silliman, who, with the apparatus already alluded to, subjected a great number of refractory bodies to the action of the oxyhydrogen jet, and published an account of his results in the *Memoirs of the Conn. Acad.*, May 7, 1812.

The discovery of the oxyhydrogen blowpipe was crowned by the American Academy at Boston by the Rumford medal.

The historian of science will, in view of the facts here quoted, find it needless to notice the disingenuous effort of Dr. Clark, of Cambridge, England, in his "gas blowpipe," to overlook or appropriate the discovery of Dr. Hare and the researches of Silliman and others, several years after (in 1819) this discovery had been fully before the scientific world,—an effort which must ever remain as a sad stain upon the reputation of this otherwise distinguished man.\*

It is not our purpose here to rehearse the history of Dr. Hare's

\* The reader will peruse with interest, in this connection, Dr. Hare's elaborate defence of his own claims and those of his associate, Professor Silliman, against Dr. Clark's appropriation, in *Silliman's Journal*, vol. ii, pp. 281-302, 1820. Dr. Clark, after a full and spirited protest had been communicated to him, stating fully Dr. Hare's claims and the wrong done him, failed to make any acknowledgment of his error, thus exonerating us from the force of the old maxim, "*Nil de mortuis nisi bonum.*" Dr. Hare heads his strictures on Dr. Clark's book with the well-known lines of Virgil, "*Hos ego versiculos feci, tulit alter honores,*" &c.

discovery in full, much less to describe all the modifications which the apparatus has received at the hands of its original discoverer and others. It is well known that in later years he constructed the apparatus on a gigantic scale, with large vessels of wrought iron capable of sustaining the pressure of the Fairmount Waterworks, and that with this powerful combination he was able to fuse at one operation nearly two pounds of platinum.\* In these experiments, the metal is held upon a refractory fire-brick, and both are heated as highly as possible in a wind furnace with charcoal before submitting it to the gas-jet. The product of this fusion from the crude grains is found to be greatly purified, a result probably due to the volatilization at this intense heat of some of the associate metals.

The employment of Dr. Hare's jet to illuminate light-houses and signal-reflectors under the names of Drummond light and Calcium light, is only another example of the mode of ignoring the name of the real discoverer, of which the history of science presents so many parallels.

The fertility of Dr. Hare's inventive mind is illustrated by the numerous and ingenious forms of apparatus which he contrived for research or illustration. To many of these he was led by the necessity of preparing the illustrations for his lectures upon a scale of magnitude adequate to the instruction of the large classes of the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania. He was called to fill the Chair of Chemistry in that institution in 1818, and continued in the discharge of its duties for nearly a third of a century, and until his resignation in 1847.

He was fond of graphic illustrations; they abound in his *Memoirs* and in his *Compendium* and other works, and aided by his lucid descriptions his inventions thus become quite intelligible. Where most instructors are satisfied with less perfect and more simple means and explanations, he seemed to be content with nothing short of perfection.

During his long course of research and experimenting, he accumulated a vast store of instruments and materials. An inspection of his repositories and the treasures there accumulated filled the observer with astonishment, and in his lecture-room there was

\* Roberts in New York has lately with Dr. Hare's apparatus succeeded in fusing perfectly 53 oz. of platinum at one operation.—*N. Y. Tribune*, May 19, 1858.

always a profusion of apparatus, often instruments of great dimensions, corresponding well with his large mind, with his great physical and intellectual power, and unquenchable ardor. He was himself an able and skilful mechanic, and worked adroitly at the turning lathe, and with the other resources of a well-furnished shop. In his operations he spared neither labor nor expense, and bestowed both munificently for the accomplishment of his objects.

He devoted great labor and skill to the construction of new and improved forms of the voltaic pile, and it is easy to show that owing to his zeal and skill in this department of chemical physics, American chemists were enabled to employ with distinguished success the intense powers of extended series of voltaic couples long in advance of the general use of similar combinations in Europe. In place of the cumbrous and unmanageable Cruickshank troughs with which Davy discovered the metallic bases of the alkalies, Dr. Hare introduced his Deflagrator, in which any series, however extended, could be instantaneously brought into action, or rendered passive at pleasure. The peculiarities of Dr. Hare's deflagrators are too familiar to need any description here. Although the discovery of the constant battery by Daniell, and of the double combinations of platinum or carbon with amalgamated zinc and nitric acid have rendered the old forms of this instrument no longer so useful as formerly, it is not less a proof of the merit of Dr. Hare's apparatus that Professor Faraday, in 1835, after having exhausted his ingenuity and experience in perfecting the voltaic battery, found that Dr. Hare had already, nearly twenty-five years before, accomplished all that he had attempted, and with a noble frankness worthy of all praise, he at once adopted Dr. Hare's instrument as embodying the best results then possible.\*

It was with one of Hare's deflagrators that Silliman, in 1823, first demonstrated the volatilization and fusion of carbon, a result considered so extraordinary at the time that it was long received with incredulity. Since the general introduction of Bunsen's battery, these effects are no longer doubted; all Professor Silliman's results having been confirmed and extended by Despretz, De La Rive, and others.

\* Faraday's Experimental Researches, 1124, 1132.

The Deflagrator was invented in 1820.\* Four years earlier, Dr. Hare had contrived another instrument, which he called "The Calorimotor." In this instrument great extent of surface was obtained from the combining of many large plates (18" or 24" square) of zinc and copper into two series, and plunging the whole at one movement into a tank of dilute acid. The magnetic and heating effects of this instrument were surprising; and, to this day, no other form of voltaic apparatus appears to occasion the movement of so great a *volume* of heat with so low a projectile or intensitive force. By it, large rods of iron or platinum, when clamped between its jaws, are first fully ignited and then fused with splendid phenomena, while at the same time its intensity is so low that hardly the least visible spark can be made to pass by it through poles of carbon.

The magnetic effects attributed by Dr. Hare to his Calorimotor have since been shown by Professor Henry to be attainable, as is now well known, from a single cell if combined with suitable conductors.

In the philosophy of chemistry, Dr. Hare has distinguished himself for the zeal and logical acumen with which he combated what he conceived to be the errors of the salt radical theory. He was ready at all times to engage in controversy upon any point of theory where he conceived there was an error latent. No one can review the numerous letters which he has addressed to the senior editor of the American Journal of Science and Art, to Berzelius, to Liebig, and to Faraday, and published in that Journal, without perceiving that he was no ordinary antagonist.

His theory of whirlwinds and storms was founded on an electrical hypothesis, and he never admitted the rotary theory of the late William C. Redfield. Their discussions were published chiefly in the American Journal of Science and Art, and will be perused with interest and instruction, both on account of the peculiar theories and of the very important series of facts which the controversy has elicited; their personal friends especially will value them the more, as the combatants, both sincere lovers of truth, have now finished their mortal career.

Mr. Redfield declined any oral controversy with Dr. Hare at the

\* The American Journal of Science and art, vol. iii, p. 105.



meetings of the American Association ; but those who were present at the second meeting in New Haven, will remember the zeal and energy with which Dr. Hare, in an off-hand speech, fluent and animated, assailed the views of Mr. Redfield, who was all the while a quiet and silent listener. The responses of the latter were always made by the pen, and never on public occasions by the tongue.

In his family and among his friends, Dr. Hare was very kind, and his feelings were generous, amiable, and genial, although occasionally his manner was abrupt, from absence of mind, occasioned by his habitual abstraction and absorption in thought ; his mind was ever active, and conversation would sometimes seem to awaken him from an intellectual reverie. He had high colloquial powers, but, to give them full effect, it was necessary that they should be aroused by a great and interesting subject, and especially if it assumed an antagonistic form. He would then discourse with commanding ability, and his hearers were generally as willing to listen as he was to speak.

He was a man of unbending rectitude, and a faithful friend both in prosperity and adversity.

His frame was robust, powerful, and ample in structure, and of strong muscular development, having been invigorated in earlier years by skilful training ; and, had there been occasion, he would have made a formidable physical antagonist. His head was large and of noble model. No stranger could meet him without being impressed by a figure of such grandeur, and a head and features so remarkable.

Dr. Hare was an ardent patriot, who loved his country and cherished its institutions, not for office or emolument, which he never sought or received, but from pure and lofty motives. He was of the school of Washington, an enthusiastic admirer of that great man, a Federalist, while that primeval party had a name and retained vitality ; and when it passed, by an imperceptible transition, into another form, he was found among the Whigs. He occasionally wrote upon the great political and financial questions which agitate the public mind. These discussions, like all his writings, were always marked by vigorous thought, large views, and elevated patriotism.



Neither was he so exclusively a man of science as to ignore the charms of literature. His particular friends know that his philosophy was sometimes softened by listening to the muses, and he indulged in poetical composition with good success.

Dr. Hare was one of the few life members of the Smithsonian Institution, to which he gave, soon after he resigned his professorship, all his chemical and physical apparatus, which has thus become the property of the nation.

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### RICHARD HARLAN, M.D.

DR. RICHARD HARLAN, an American physician, but better known to the public as author of works on Natural History, was born in Philadelphia, September 19th, 1796. He received his preparatory education at the best schools in his native city, and subsequently became a pupil of the celebrated Dr. Joseph Parrish. Previous to his receiving his medical degree, in 1817, he made a voyage to Calcutta, as surgeon of an East India ship. Besides his private practice in Philadelphia, he was a prominent member of the Academy of Medicine, and, in 1822, was elected Professor of Comparative Anatomy in the Philadelphia Museum, where he delivered lectures on that science, which evinced great research and industry. In 1832, after the appearance of the Asiatic cholera in Montreal, he was appointed, together with Drs. Meigs and Jackson, to proceed to that city, and obtain all possible information concerning the best mode of treating that terrible disease. The presumption is, that the labors and suggestions of this commission contributed, in an eminent degree, to diminish the sufferings endured as well as the mortality experienced, when that terrible scourge subsequently made its appearance in Philadelphia. In 1825, Dr. Harlan published his *Fauna Americana*, or Catalogue of American Mammiferous Animals. In 1835, he collected most of his essays which had previously appeared on medical subjects and on natural history, and published them, with various additions, in a volume entitled *Medical and Physical Researches*, which, with his former volume,



ALAN TURING, 1948. (Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-1948-01>)

Alan Turing was a British mathematician, logician, and computer scientist. He is best known for his work on artificial intelligence and the Turing test. He was also a pioneer in the field of cryptography and was instrumental in the development of the first electronic digital computer, the Colossus. Turing was a member of the Church of England and was buried in the consecrated ground of the Church of St. Andrew, in the village of Church Stretton, Shropshire, England.



attracted the notice of the most eminent French zoologists. In 1838, he visited Europe for the second time, and was treated with kind attention. After his return, near the close of the year 1839, he removed to New Orleans, where he proposed to establish himself, the prospects for which seemed most favorable; but, September 30, 1843, he died suddenly of apoplexy, at the age of forty-seven.

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## JOSEPH HARTSHORNE, M.D.

DR. JOSEPH HARTSHORNE was not originally a Philadelphian. Although the son of a Philadelphia mother, and allied through his father, as well as maternally, to many well-known Philadelphia families of the past and present century, he became a citizen by adoption, at the commencement of his professional life only; and in due time confirmed his position here, already otherwise established, by the closer bond of union with a Philadelphia wife.

In this city were spent the fifty years of unfailing and signally successful devotion to his noble calling, which have identified his name with the history of medicine in this country, and with all that is honorable and estimable in the medical reputation of Philadelphia.

Here were born and educated all his children, and here he ended his days and was buried, after a long career of eminence and unceasing usefulness,—a career which early became one of unusual professional influence, although attended, at the outset, with a full share of difficulties and discouragements.

He was born in Alexandria, Virginia, on the 12th of December, 1779.

His father, William Hartshorne, after having married Susannah Saunders, of Philadelphia, had engaged in business in Alexandria as a flour merchant and manufacturer, and resided chiefly at an attractive seat called Strawberry Hill, in Fairfax County, some three miles from Alexandria, and within six or seven miles of Mount Vernon.

His paternal ancestors were members of the Society of Friends, and among the earliest settlers of the colony of New Jersey; the first of them, Richard Hartshorne, having left an ancient freehold in Leicestershire, England, on account of his religious belief. This pioneer of the family arrived in America, along with other followers of George Fox, in 1669, and possessed himself by regular purchase of a large tract of land among the Highlands of Neversink on Shrewsbury River and the adjoining sea-shore, including that part of it which is well known as Sandy Hook. He became one of the twelve proprietaries of East Jersey, in association with William Penn and the Duke of York, in 1682; and subsequently bought the claims of several of his neighbors to such an extent as to become one of the largest landholders of the province.

The original homestead, with a considerable estate around it, is still in the possession of a lineal descendant, Robert Hartshorne; and the property on which stands the Sandy Hook Lighthouse, was purchased from the family by the United States Government so late as the year 1816.

The position of the Hartshornes, as officers of the Crown and as large land-owners through successive generations, as well as their Quaker tenets in regard to war, naturally inclined them to adhere to the Royalist or Tory party in our revolutionary contest. The sympathies of Dr. Joseph Hartshorne's father, however, were with the revolutionists; and this difference of feeling on the great question of the day is supposed to have had a material influence in deciding his emigration to a southern and more congenial home.

His peculiar religious views prevented him from engaging in active concert with the party whose interests he had espoused, and led him to devote himself entirely to peaceful pursuits, and to those public duties only which were consistent with his profession as at once a patriotic citizen and an advocate of peace and good-will towards men.

In this effort he was eminently successful. His business prospered, and he acquired the confidence of his fellow-citizens in various offices of trust, and in his ordinary relations, to a degree that was well expressed by a prominent member of the Assembly of his State, in the remark that "William Hartshorne's word was



as good as any man's bond in all Virginia." A near neighbor of Washington, he long enjoyed the confidence and friendship of the Father of his Country; and, in company with the General as President, he was engaged for many years as Treasurer and Secretary in the conduct of the affairs of the first internal improvement company\* that was instituted in America; an enterprise of Washington's own creation, and one which was characteristically dear to his heart.

We have been thus particular in dwelling on the virtues and position of the father of the subject of this memoir, because such a notice would seem to be the fittest introduction to our study of his own life and character, and because it may account for at least a share of the superiority which enabled the son to reflect in his career the value of the good example, no less than the good name, the memory of which was the only patrimony he was destined to enjoy.

Like many men who have made their mark within their particular sphere, Dr. Joseph Hartshorne was a cripple. Until about five years of age he was perfectly well formed and vigorous in health. At this period, he contracted the small-pox; and, during his illness, was dosed with calomel, according to the bad fashion of the day and the region, and while under its influence was carelessly exposed to cold. The consequence was a violent inflammation of both feet, which ended in a permanent contraction of the toes and incurable deformity and lameness. With this exception, he continued, as he had been, unusually vigorous and active in body and mind, being impeded only in pedestrian exercises, and making up for this one personal defect by greater strength and agility in the use of his arms and in feats of horsemanship.

His calamity early produced a decided effect upon his habits and feelings, and doubtless led to his subsequent vocation to the healing art. Naturally sensitive and retiring in disposition, but resolved and self-relying, he continued to shrink more and more from the companionship of lads of his own age, in whose active sports he was less able to take a leading part, and to seek the society of others

\* The Potomac Navigation Company. See Pictell's "Early Chapter in the Life of Washington."

whose maturer years had interested them in more intellectual pursuits ; while he found in his own reflections and silent observations and a resort to books, that more solid entertainment which was within his individual reach. Gifted with a retentive memory, clear perceptions, strong reasoning powers, and general activity of mind, he devoted himself with great ardor to scholastic and literary exercises, and soon made himself a distinguished pupil in the Alexandria Academy, at which, under the able direction of its worthy and accomplished principal, the chaplain and familiar friend of Washington, Dr. McGrath, he completed his college education. The familiarity which he manifested in after years with the Latin and French languages, and the force and precision with which he wrote and spoke his native tongue, afforded ample evidence of his proficiency in academical training ; and the ease and accuracy with which, even in his old age, he could recite long passages from favorite authors in prose and verse, evinced the zeal and talent with which he had engaged in belles-lettres exercises, no less than the unusual power of memory which aided him in all his studies.

Upon leaving the Academy, he entered the counting-house of his father, and was subjected to a business education under the paternal eye, which was deemed in those days of great value to the young men of the neighborhood who were destined to commercial occupations, on account of the high standing of Mr. Hartshorne, in that part of the State, as a merchant and a man. The good effect of this commercial training was very striking in his extremely prompt, punctual, and methodical habits in conducting all his affairs in after life. Without interfering with his inclination for study, it developed his natural aptness for order and precision, and increased the practical turn of mind which, in spite of a naturally impulsive and even enthusiastic disposition, eventually became a ruling and invaluable characteristic. He was accustomed to regard the years spent under the especial tuition of his father, in the duties of the warehouse and the mills, as among the most influential in preparing him for the efficient discharge of the multiplied and onerous responsibilities of his subsequent life, not only in connection with his public and private practice as a professional man, but in the prosecution of various business enterprises, in which his energetic spirit led him to engage on different occasions.

It was at this period, too, that he established the perfect physical health which enabled him to devote himself to an enormous amount of mental and bodily labor, without intermission, throughout a long succession of years. During an interval of nearly forty years, he was not obliged to rest three days in succession on account of sickness or fatigue; and it was a rare thing for him to indulge in a single day's withdrawal for purposes of recreation. He was an old man and an invalid before he was willing to absent himself from his post; and even then he was ready to attend to what he regarded as the call of duty, without regard to his own condition, and without thought of compensation, wherever and whenever the claims of friendship or humanity were properly presented to him. We have known him often to drive for miles, or to hasten on foot, when hardly fit to leave his house, to prescribe for an old patient, an impoverished friend or former domestic, who could return him nothing but thanks; while he could, perhaps on the same day, refuse to attend upon an inconsiderate neighbor, whose only recommendation might be his ability to pay for unreasonable exactions.

While dividing his time between the warehouse at Alexandria and the mills at Strawberry Hill, he was induced, by the urging of his friends and some members of his family, whose penetration had already suggested his right vocation, to engage in reading works on medicine, with a view to his ultimately becoming a physician. He entered upon this course, however, with great reluctance. Although fond of the study, the prospect of engaging in the practice of the healing art was so distasteful to him that he at first resisted the importunities of his advisers, but was finally persuaded to make the trial, in consideration of his lameness, which was supposed to incapacitate him for more active occupation. He therefore entered the office of Dr. James Kraick, the family physician of Washington, and former Surgeon of the Continental Army, as a regular pupil. Dr. Kraick was the favorite military surgeon and medical adviser and companion of General Washington in all his campaigns, from the ill-fated Braddock's expedition until the close of the Revolutionary War, and possessed, in character and varied experience, unusually valuable qualifications as a professional teacher; but our young student was destined for a wider field. After one or two years' preliminary reading and practical instruc-

tion with his accomplished preceptor, he was enabled, through the assistance of his uncles, Samuel Coates and Pattison Hartshorne, of Philadelphia (then influential managers of the Hospital), and of other relatives in this city, to secure an appointment to the post of Resident Apprentice and Apothecary, then vacant in the Pennsylvania Hospital. He entered this institution on the 27th of July, 1801, and thus commenced his residence and professional career in Philadelphia about the middle of his twenty-second year. He entered the medical class of the University at the commencement of the succeeding term; and, from that time forward, was assiduously engaged in the practical duties of the Hospital, as well as in the more theoretical occupation of the library and the lecture-room. We have not space to dwell on the reputation of both the schools in which he was so fortunate as to be thus auspiciously established. Nor need we say anything of the importance and value of the teaching he enjoyed as Hospital Surgeon under such men as Rush, and Wistar, and Physick, and Barton, who were the physicians and surgeons of the Hospital, and his preceptors in the University. It is enough to say that he soon became warmly interested in the splendid opportunities afforded by his new field of observation, and did not fail to devote his whole time and energies to the mastery of the science and art, the grand object and nature of which he had just begun to comprehend in their application to the stern realities of life before him. His previous apprehensions and antipathies were soon merged in a higher sense of admiration for the glories of the science, and a determination to unveil its mysteries for the noble purpose of abating the miseries of his fellow-men.

During his five years' term of service, the library and the museum received a large share of his attention. Probably no resident of the institution ever made himself more familiar with the books of the library, or the preparations of the museum, than did Dr. Hartshorne, while they continued in his care; and, it is worthy of note, that to him is due the first regular alphabetical catalogue prepared for publication at the Hospital, as is shown by a special vote, in acknowledgment and commendation, which is on record in the minutes of the Board of Managers.

As he was no mere closet student, however, our librarian was still more diligently engaged in improving his acquaintance with



the ravages of disease and injury in the Ward and the Dead House, and in advancing his knowledge of anatomy and surgery by the exercises of the dissecting-room. His interest in the study of anatomy and physiology especially attracted the attention of Dr. Caspar Wistar, then the distinguished professor of the latter branch, and his proficiency in the Professor's favorite study was probably an influential source of the regard which Dr. Wistar continued to manifest for him in after years.

Dr. Hartshorne justly attached the highest importance to a thorough knowledge of anatomy in all its details and applications; and, in insisting upon it as, with physiology and pathology, the only true and substantial basis on which the medical and surgical skill should rest, he was accustomed to attribute much of the confidence he felt in both medical and surgical practice to the practical familiarity with it acquired by him while a hospital student. Although always able and ready to give a reason for his belief and his precept, he was too much a student of Nature, and too independent in his habit of thought not to value above all things in the practice of his profession the faculty of observation, and the ability through a knowledge of healthy manifestations and appearances to direct this faculty to a useful end.

After some seven years' study, four of which were spent in the Hospital and in attendance on the University courses, he took his degree of Doctor of Medicine. The thesis which he presented on the occasion of his graduation, was an experimental one "On the Influence of the Atmosphere in Respiration." It was published at the time, in accordance with the custom of the day, and copies of it are still extant. Although prepared and written under the press of his numerous duties as senior hospital resident, it gives evidence of literary taste and scholarship; and, as a specimen of original investigation, is indicative of the ability which soon rendered its young author so conspicuous among his brethren.

During the last twelve months of his service at the Hospital, he was authorized to take the entire charge of the out-patients of the Institution, in connection with a charity which has since been given up to the City Dispensary. For this purpose he was allowed the use of a horse and gig, and in the course of the year was called to



prescribe for seventeen hundred different patients, the record of whose cases is still preserved.

During the latter few months of his residence in the Hospital, also, he engaged in the translation of Desault's Clinical Lectures on Fractures, and had nearly completed his work and secured a number of subscribers for the publication, when he was deprived of his manuscript and forestalled by a competitor. This induced him to prepare, with as little delay as possible, an American edition of Boyer's Treatise on Diseases of the Bones, with an original appendix containing notes of cases and descriptions of some new forms of apparatus; notes and cases being illustrated with several handsome copper-plates. This is the only work in the book-form with which his name has been connected as author or editor. He was at no time fond of writing for the press, and he soon became too much absorbed in the routine duties of his public and private practice to be able to devote any time but what was needed for repose in bed to labors with the pen. The few papers he has contributed are, like his Appendix to the edition of Boyer on the Bones, entirely practical in their character, and intended to announce or elucidate some new or peculiar mode of treatment which had been very successful in his hands. He was in the habit, however, of recording all his important prescriptions from day to day; and briefly noted the cases of interest that occurred to him. Large numbers of records of this kind are to be found throughout his books; but although interesting, and, to some extent, available, they are not sufficiently connected in themselves to admit of arrangement for the press.

His residence in the Hospital was further distinguished by the introduction of an entirely new apparatus for the treatment of fractured thighs, which, for efficiency and simplicity, is superior to many that have been presented since; and which, indeed, has served as the basis of several contrivances which have long since been introduced as original inventions. It still holds its ground in many places; and, with the adaptation of more recent modes of applying the extending and counter-extending bands, may yet be regarded as one of the best forms of splints for the purpose.

We may remark here, that he attached but little importance to the claim of "originality" in the contrivance of instruments and

apparatus, or in the minor modifications of treatment, well knowing that the suggestions of practice are so frequently the same to intelligent and ingenious practitioners, that there are few expedients which have not occurred again and again, under the stimulus of necessity, to different individuals; and that very many of the so-called new improvements are to be found among the illustrations of our oldest works. These are the small vanities of the profession, which, in spite of his constant habit of adapting his own means to the particular end in view, without subservience to established rule, he sometimes undervalued in his own case, and disregarded in others. So far did he go with this feeling that he described his splint for fractured thighs as a modification of that of Boyer, although it was altogether unlike its imaginary model, and only resembled it, in common with Desault's, in treating the fractured limb in the straight position, and in the employment of a leather socket, which was soon afterwards abandoned. Although his own splint was materially improved and simplified not long after he had published the first account of it, he never thought it worth his while to publish a description of the perfected apparatus. This has been repeatedly done by others, and sometimes erroneously; but, although now in established use for more than forty years, and preferred in his own practice by its inventor, he left it to work its own way without effort on his part.

We may mention, in exemplification of this aversion to display, which was so prominent in his character, that, ardently devoted as he had become to the practice of his profession, and entirely dependent on its proceeds for support, he neglected, during the first five years of his occupation of an office, to have any door or window-plate, to indicate his name or calling, attached to his place of residence. His idea, as he pithily expressed it, was, that those who knew and wanted him might easily find him, and that he did not expect others to make the attempt. This reliance on the slow growth of individual confidence in his ability and skill, to be built upon personal experience and tradition only, would hardly answer in the present day of metropolitan indifference and competition, although it seems to have been happily justified by the event in our more limited and primitive community of half a century ago.

An opportunity having been presented for his embarking on a

voyage to Batavia, as surgeon and supercargo of an East India merchantman, he obtained permission to resign his office at the Hospital some six weeks before the expiration of his five years' term of service. The certificate which was given to him on this occasion, after speaking in the most cordial terms of his conduct, during his residence in the institution, as meriting their highest esteem and respect, goes on to say: "In the practical duties of his profession, he has displayed, under the inspection and advice of six of the most eminent physicians of Philadelphia, a skill seldom to be met with in practitioners of his years. From a well-founded confidence in his abilities and fitness for the charge, the care of the out-door patients has been intrusted to him exclusively during the last year of his meritorious services; and the uncommon success with which his practice was marked, left us no cause either to regret or to diminish our confidence in him."

This voyage occupied him about ten months, and was very successful in a pecuniary point of view, at the same time that it was advantageous in other respects. He was soon tempted to make a second venture, during which he was absent some fourteen or fifteen months, three of which were spent in a residence at Batavia. The mercantile result of the second voyage was as unfortunate as that of the first had been the opposite; and the surgeon and supercargo returned to his proper position in Philadelphia a poorer man than when he left it. The lessons and opportunities of the new field were by no means lost, however. The diseases and accidents of a long East India voyage in the strongly manned vessels of former days, and the malignant fevers and bowel affections so prevalent in Batavia at that time, afforded him ample professional employment, as well as means of enlarging his medical experience.

Nor was this episode in his professional life without its moral tests. On two different occasions, his integrity and firmness are known to have been severely tried. Once as supercargo, while seeking freight for his ship, he was offered a large consignment of spices, then monopolized by the Government of Holland, on terms so advantageous as to manifest the smuggling character of the transaction by which they were obtained. He refused to be a party to a fraud which he could only suspect, and might easily have winked at without the fear of exposure, and thus saved his honor



at the expense of a certain fortune. The second trial was much more severe, as well as more appropriate to his peculiar mission, while it was even more characteristic in its results. During the second voyage home, the master of the ship, a man of courage and ability, but unusually stern and arbitrary, even for those days of ocean despotism, subjected his crew to an allowance and quality of rations which created a serious amount of sickness as well as discontent among the men. Dr. Hartshorne not only refused to justify the captain, but boldly protested against his course, and continued to insist upon a change, until he had secured it to some extent, although at the cost of his own comfort and liberty throughout the remainder of the voyage. He was banished to the fore-castle, and at one time would have been put in irons, if it had not been for the undisguised sympathy expressed for him by the subordinate officers and men whose rights he was defending. It may be remarked here, that his determined stand against the oppression of these poor mariners was only in accordance with the spirit of his whole after-life in ministering to the sick and wounded who were confided to his care, and in protecting what he deemed to be their rights and needs against the negligence or perversity of the attendants and friends. Nurses and patients, of whatever position, well knew that his orders were meant to be obeyed. He never hesitated to resent the absurd and mischievous intermeddling so common in the sick-room; nor was he much more patient under the infliction of unreasonable and often impertinent catechizing, so often visited upon the doctor under plea of interest in the patient. To the bluntness manifested on these occasions towards irresponsible parties in and out of the sick-room, and to the sternness with which he was apt to rebuke the careless or disobedient, may be attributed much, if not all, of his reputation for roughness and crossness in many places. To the patients themselves he was ever tender and sympathizing, as he was to all who were really in affliction; although he never withheld the truth when it was unequivocally asked for. His own family and old friends,—all, indeed, who knew him best, felt not the slightest fear either of words or frowns, and were more likely to expect a warm grasp of the hand, and a benignant smile or hearty laugh, than either.

On reaching Philadelphia once more, he was glad to settle down



and enter permanently upon the practice of his profession. His apothecary's training at the Hospital, and his extensive professional acquaintance, together with the very limited income to be hoped for at that early stage of his career, induced him to engage in partnership with an old friend in the business of a druggist. With this view he opened an apothecary's shop and physician's office in Market Street above Eighth. A two or three years' trial of this kind of life satisfied him that, although it was common, at that period, for city practitioners to compound their own prescriptions, as it now is in the rural districts, and the two different callings were not considered incompatible with each other, such a mode of prosecuting his vocation was not suited to his interest or temper. He therefore abandoned it, and opened an office alone in Spruce Street between Seventh and Eighth, near his old hospital home.

Here his practice assumed a regular but very gradual increase. His old hospital patients and their friends resorted to him in sufficient numbers, but their personal regard for him and confidence in his skill, although unbounded and always cordially expressed, was often more oppressive than useful, and contributed but slightly to his support and professional advancement. The more substantial returns were limited to a comparatively narrow circle of relatives and warm personal friends. Accustomed to the habits of a gentleman, obliged by his lameness to keep a horse and gig, and not disposed by nature to submit readily to the small economies of the *res angusta*, he was subjected to so much discouragement as to be often ready to close his office in despair. Like his distinguished preceptor and colleague, Dr. Physick, in his opening struggles, he may be said literally to have not made enough for a while even to pay for his shoe-leather, and yet was even more embarrassed in being compelled to incur the much greater expense of a horse and carriage.

Nor could he look to his family for the assistance which is so often forthcoming from willing and hopeful hands at home. His father had been stripped in his declining years of much of his former wealth through losses by fire and by unfortunate indorsements, and was scarcely able to afford the assistance which seemed to be so much needed by his favorite son. The best he could do was to offer him a shelter under the paternal roof, in the hope that he



might succeed in establishing a practice in his native town. The letter in which the old gentleman affectionately urges this measure on his son was discovered among the papers of the latter at least forty years after it was written; and on its back was found the following characteristic comment inscribed in the clear and beautiful hand of its author: "Go back to increase their poverty! Never! never! until I can carry back with me bank notes enough to paper the walls of the best room at Strawberry Hill!"

His resolution was fulfilled to the letter; he never returned to the old homestead until he was rich enough to line it as he pleased.

We have alluded to his numerous admirers among the patients whose affection and confidence he had acquired as resident and out-door physician in the Pennsylvania Hospital. These early employers and patrons, although restricted in their means, were honest, and by no means without influence in eventually extending his reputation, and securing for him a more lucrative sphere of occupation. Dr. Hartshorne always spoke warmly of these old and fast friends and supporters, and did not desert them and their families in his better days. Many of them, however, rose with the progress of time and prospered with him; and it was to these and others in their train, as well as to the crowds who aided with their tongues when their purses were empty, that he was wont to attribute a good share of the ample private practice which he gradually obtained. It was, doubtless, to the appreciation by this humble crowd of his untiring fidelity and unaffected kindness of heart, and straightforward honesty of purpose, as well as firmness and decision of character and shrewdness of perception, rather than the evidence of scientific skill, that he owed the early opportunity to display that skill when it could be better understood, and much even of his subsequent advancement.

There was another trait of his character that rendered him especially popular among the Irish, with whom he was brought very generally into contact, in his hospital experience, at the same time that it greatly increased his interest in them. We refer to his strong sense of the ludicrous, and love of mirth. This may seem strange to those who only knew him in the sick-room, or have watched the almost stern gravity and absorbing interest with which he would investigate the symptoms of a dangerous or critical case;

but it is not the less true, as those who were most familiar with his natural cast of mind will testify, that countenance of iron at one moment was easily melted into earnest sympathy with suffering; or radiant at another with the heartiest merriment. No one enjoyed a genuine laugh more keenly than did Dr. Joseph Hartshorne, under proper circumstances; and no one, therefore, could be a more welcome, or more ready visitor at the bedside of a jovial son of Erin.

In the year 1813, Dr. Hartshorne was married to Anna Bonsall, a daughter of Isaac Bonsall, of Philadelphia; and his practice, already quite considerable, both in medicine and surgery, from that time rapidly increased.

In 1815, he was, without solicitation on his part, unanimously elected one of the surgeons of the Pennsylvania Hospital, he having withdrawn from a canvass for a similar appointment a year or two previously, in favor of Dr. Physick, nephew of Dr. John Syng Dorsey. His colleagues then, and during several years, were Drs. Physick and Dorsey, who already regarded him as a rising competitor for their well-earned fame. This return, in a higher capacity, and in such copartnership, to the scene of his early exploits, extended his general reputation, and brought him more prominently before the public as a practical surgeon. His receipts from that more lucrative department, steadily augmented; while his standing, in and out of the profession, kept pace with his pecuniary progress.

Upon the death of Professor Wistar in 1818, his rising protégé succeeded him as attending physician in a large number of respectable families; and he began to be regarded by a considerable party as likely to be a desirable acquisition to the medical faculty of the University which had just met with so severe a loss in the decease of his distinguished patron. Accordingly, when the chair of Surgery became vacant by the transfer of Dr. Physick to the Professorship of Anatomy in Dr. Wistar's place, Dr. Hartshorne was urged as a candidate therefor, in connection with the accomplished Dr. Thomas T. Hewson, then already popular as a teacher of Surgical and Comparative Anatomy. The canvass by the respective competitors and their advocates was an exciting one, although Dr. Hartshorne took no personal part in it. Dr. Hartshorne and his

associate fell short by one vote only of the number that placed the successful candidate, Dr. Gibson, in the station which he so long held in the school; and, as Dr. Evans, from whose excellent memoir we freely quote, remarks: "It is no disparagement to the latter to say, that the strong desire to transplant from a neighboring and rival school one who promised to contribute much to its rising reputation, was, at the time, generally understood to have been the principal cause of Dr. Hartshorne's defeat."

"He has often said," continues Dr. Evans, "that his failure on that occasion was fortunate on many accounts, and that his private practice was immediately and decidedly augmented after it; so much so, that he would never have been willing to carry on the two together, even if the additional patients had been still disposed to seek him." To use his own expressive phrase, he would not have been hampered with the professorship; and it was well, that, with his idea of what was due to all parties, he was not subjected to a double burden that would have surely weighed him down. He was no office-seeker, and averse to mingling in crowds; and hence he not only declined all invitations to public positions which might have extended, what he shrunk from, his notoriety, but was rarely seen in the large social gatherings which are so common among the leading professional men of the city, and especially at the houses of the professors of the different medical schools. Although given to individual hospitality with all the warmth of his native State, and rarely without a guest in his house and at his table, he had no taste for social display, and never engaged in general entertainments. He was, therefore, known to the students only at a distance and in his hospital service, and, although he commanded their respect and confidence, he might not have succeeded in winning that personal and social popularity among them which is so important in the relations between the teacher and his pupils. In his individual intercourse with them he would not have failed to attach them strongly to him as he did all those with whom, as private preceptor or consulting medical counsellor, he was brought into association. He was candid and indulgent, always taking and expressing an unaffected interest in young medical men who proved themselves deserving and capable in the discharge of their duties, and ever ready, not only to advise them in difficulties, and to pro-

tect them from misrepresentation or imposition, but to award them whatever praise their skill or good conduct may have merited.

“In the year 1820” (we continue our quotations from T. E.), “our city was visited by the yellow fever; and from that period up to 1830, there was a remarkable prevalence of epidemic diseases. Influenza of an aggravated character, as well as bilious fever in its various forms, visited, at short intervals, most parts of our country; and the city of Philadelphia, with its adjacent districts, repeatedly suffered severely from their inroads. Of the many eminent physicians who, during that time, resided in our city, there was perhaps no one more constantly occupied with the duties of his profession, few as much so, as Dr. Hartshorne. The calls upon him, either as attending or as consulting physician, were not only numerous from all parts of the city and districts, but he was constantly resorted to from that section below the city known by the name of ‘The Neck’ (with the inhabitants of which he had long been extremely popular), as well as from different parts of the neighboring country. In addition to the great amount of business thus heaped upon him, he was frequently consulted through letters by physicians at a greater distance. Some idea may be formed of the extent of his practice, in the course of that time, from the fact that, during the course of a single autumn, he prescribed for over two hundred and eighty cases of fever alone, nearly all of which were under his personal care and attendance. The constant demand made upon his time by his private practice, rendered it necessary for him to give up his appointment as surgeon in the Hospital, and in 1821 he accordingly sent in his resignation, after a connection with it, as apprentice, resident physician, and attending surgeon, of nearly twelve years.”

“The life of a physician thus closely occupied, must necessarily be one of great anxiety and of almost uninterrupted toil, both mental and physical; calling for great self-denial, and the sacrifice of a large share of those enjoyments that are to be found only within the quiet scenes of the domestic circle. Passed at the bedside of his languishing patients, in the contaminated atmosphere of the sick-chamber; exposed, even in the abodes of the rich, to the vexations and disappointments arising from the prejudice of ignorance and the excitement of ill-regulated passions, he must not falter in



his duty as a minister of good, but give the utmost efforts of his eye, his ear, his sense of touch, his intellectual powers, and his attainments to analyze the symptoms of each successive case claiming his care, discover the secret source of disease, devise the remedies that shall mitigate the anguish of pain, soothe the wretchedness of sickness, and ward off the stroke of death. Day after day passes on in the wearisome performance of the invaluable services inseparable from the ministration of his high office, involving, in the course of years, the health and life of thousands of his fellow-beings; and yet, throughout his whole career, there may probably have been nothing done calculated to catch the public eye, or elicit the applause of the multitude; nothing which may not be recorded in the simple sentence, 'He knew his duty, and performed it;' and, independent of the gratification arising from the conviction that that duty has been done, too often he must rest content, if, when the hour of suffering and dismay has passed, he is either disregarded or forgotten by those to whom, under the blessing of Divine Providence, he has been the instrument of restoring health, and the enjoyments to which it only can give zest.

"It was thus that so many years of Dr. Hartshorne's life were passed; the reputation for skill and experience which he had acquired adding to his multiplied cares, and securing a continual interruption to rest or pleasure. He continued to devote the untiring energies of his powerful and cultivated mind to the duties and responsibilities of a wide-spread practice, never relaxing in the course he had marked out, until the time arrived when he too was obliged to succumb to the inroads of sickness and the shadow of death."

The only decided diversion, apart from the occasional attendance on the courses of leading lecturers on scientific and literary topics, which he always enjoyed with zest, was the indulgence of a family failing in the purchase and sale of real estate. Many of his speculations of this kind were highly successful, especially before the crashes of 1837 and 1841; but in the long run, it is probable that he would have accumulated a larger property, and fared better in its management, had he avoided the dangerous temptations which beset the professional man who thus risks the capital derived from more legitimate sources, in the vortex of commercial fluctuations.



Although a large property-holder, he was often harassed, in the midst of other cares, and restricted for want of means that were buried in his lands or due upon them; and hence, he was often liable to calls upon his liberality on account of his reputed wealth, when he was barely able to satisfy the wants of his family and the claims of private charity, to neither of which was he ever known to turn an unwilling ear.

His naturally strong constitution, sustained by an active life in the open air, his strict temperance, extreme cleanliness of person, and regular mode of life, so far as his professional duties would admit, enabled him to resist the infirmities of age almost entirely, until he had nearly completed his allotted threescore years and ten. He had undergone two very serious mental shocks, at some five years' interval; the one being the loss of his eldest daughter by a rapid consumption, and the other, the for some time uncertain, loss at sea of his eldest son. He had also been subject to occasional attacks of biliary obstruction, probably from gall-stones, for several years, but had never been obliged to interrupt his daily avocations. It was not until the autumn of 1848, and especially after the summer and fall of 1849, that he gave evidence of more serious disorder. The cholera epidemic of 1849 subjected him to numerous appeals from old and new patients, notwithstanding that he had previously been largely curtailing the extent of his practice. He became interested in the work, and was once more almost as busily employed as he had ever been in his best days. While the excitement lasted, he did not appear to suffer; but the close of the season and the cessation of the contest with the pestilence, left him exhausted and fatally diseased. The remaining months of his failing life were but a struggle with inevitable decay, in which the intervals of comparative ease were just long enough and decided enough to delude him into the effort to go on with his work, and to answer the calls which, in spite of his broken health, were daily made upon him, and often pertinaciously pressed, even in his sick-room, and when he was unable to leave his bed. In this way he dragged on a weary life with little hope of improvement, and in entire resignation to the change which he well knew was rapidly approaching, until the latter end of June, 1850. At this time he determined to leave the city, in order to secure an undisturbed repose, which was impossi-

ble in his own house ; and he had himself carried to the Brandywine Springs, there to spend the few short days that yet remained to him, in a pure air, and perfect retirement. At this place, attended by his sons, Drs. Edward and Henry Hartshorne, with the aid of Drs. Shallcross and Goddard, and surrounded by his wife and children, he lingered until the 5th of August, 1850, when he breathed his last, in peace with all men, and in the firm assurance of a better life above, through the salvation which is in Jesus Christ alone.

Having always been a member of the religious Society of Friends, now designated as the "Orthodox" denomination, Dr. Hartshorne's spiritual views were in conformity with the principles held by that body, although he attached but little importance to peculiarities of language and dress. Although when not overwhelmed with care, he was fond of social conversation, generally cheerful, and often even hilarious, as already intimated, his mental abstraction would not unfrequently, and especially among strangers, or in the street, render him apparently unconscious of persons and things around him. In this way he would create, on cursory observers, an impression of extreme reserve and taciturnity, which was not his ordinary habit. Still the cast of his mind led him to much serious reflection and its kindred reading. He took great pleasure in theological discussions, but not in disputations ; and much of the leisure of the latter years of his life was spent in the study of the Bible and its literature, and of standard works on religious belief and experience. Decided in his own views, he was yet willing to listen to the expression of others, while he strove to live in charity with all.

Few men were more determined than Dr. Hartshorne in a course of action where he was compelled to take a position under the dictates of his own conscience, and yet he had no wish to govern others. He never dogmatized ; and was so averse to mere argument, that he generally preferred dropping a subject to disputing over it. "I wish to live in peace and friendship with all mankind, and especially with my professional brethren," was his remark to an old friend, in reference to a controversy then prevailing in medical circles, the subject of which he did not consider worthy of the excitement created by it.

"He was the most scrupulously truthful man," continues the

same friend, "I ever knew. On whatever subject Dr. Hartshorne spoke, it never occurred to his auditor that an idea or word could be at variance with his real opinion, or inconsistent with the fact as he understood it. He was content to rely on the simple potency of truth, and always said exactly what he meant, never attempting either to add force to his assertion by artificial emphasis or ornament. There may have appeared, in this singleness of purpose and absence of embellishment, a lack of some of the sophistication, not to say suavity, of polished society. There may have been absent also some of the conventional courtesies which are too apt to be used as cloaks, and which, as such, he held in light esteem. But in that just consideration for the persons and opinions of others, in which true politeness consists, and which has the golden rule for its only guide, he was never intentionally deficient.

"Beneath an occasional brusqueness of demeanor, and sometimes, where the occasion perhaps demanded, of actual severity, there was a large amount of native goodness of heart; and his sympathies were ever in active exercise towards the afflicted, save when the graver duties of his profession called forth the higher and severer attributes of his mind."

An anecdote occurs to us which exemplifies the remark just made in a forcible manner. It was related to us by a professional brother, who was then attending with him in the capacity of House Surgeon of the Hospital, as he was making a stated visit as Attending Surgeon. In the course of his routine, he was observed to visit the cell of an old friend and schoolmate, who was confined therein, a raving and unmanageable maniac. He was so overcome by his feelings that he stood outside of the door, weeping like a child for some minutes, before he was able to regain his self-control; but the moment the door was open, and the physician and patient were confronted with each other, all trace of the recent yearnings and weakness of the heart were gone, and an air of firm and calm authority alone appeared.

In regard to his professional character and standing, we cannot do better than to quote his biographer, Dr. Evans, in the Memoir to which we are already so much indebted:—

"We have, perhaps, already said sufficient to give a general outline of Dr. Hartshorne's life and character as a physician; and we

may confess that we feel it to be not an easy matter, so to fill up the sketch as to convey a full and correct idea of them to those who were personally unacquainted with him. We may, however, further observe, that no one capable of appreciating such knowledge could be long associated with him, without being convinced of his extensive and exact knowledge of the principles governing the science of medicine; of his diagnostic acumen, and clear perceptions of the changes effected by disease; together with a thorough familiarity with the art of applying, in the most successful manner, those agents most effective in arresting and removing it. Hence, in the sick-room, he was distinguished by the facility with which he made himself acquainted with the nature and extent of the case before him, by the exercise of great sagacity, close observation, and the well-remembered teachings of a large experience; arriving at conclusions which, although not universally correct, because no human judgment is infallible, the event seldom proved to have been erroneous; and having satisfied himself of the character of the malady with which he had to combat, while always moving with great caution, his course was unhesitating, and regulated by principles from which nothing would tempt him to swerve. As a surgeon he was prudent, but never timid, and he was ever anxious to avoid the knife, when he thought it could be safely dispensed with. He was a decided and strong advocate for the use of the lancet; not resorting to it, however, empirically, without reference to the existing state of the constitution, and of the various organs of the body, but always with precise views in its application, and having a distinct and satisfactory reason for its use. He was aware of there being an impression abroad that he had, from habit, carried the use of this powerful remedial agent too far; but, after renewed consideration of the subject in all its bearings, his convictions of the correctness of the course he had pursued were confirmed; and in a conversation held with the writer, a short time previous to the commencement of his last illness, he remarked that, upon a careful review of his extensive practice, he could recall no single case that caused him any regret for having bled in it too freely, but there were many in which he feared he had erred either by not bleeding in them at all, or having deferred it until it was too late.

“ Being solicitous of keeping pace with the progress of medicine,



so far as his numerous engagements would admit, he was a frequent and discriminating reader of the medical publications of the day, gladly availing himself of the thoughts and experience of others; though the impulse of his own mind prevented him from circumscribing his reasoning upon the subject, within the limits marked out by the author he was perusing, and, his reliance being chiefly on the deductions of his own mind, whether in agreement or opposition to the opinions of others, he was necessarily prevented from becoming a mere imitator.

“The great confidence which his professional brethren reposed in his judgment was evidenced by the frequency with which they resorted to him for advice in consultation; in the latter part of his life this constituting a large part of his practice. And in this intercourse with other physicians, while he never concealed his sentiments for reasons of policy, or appeared to acquiesce in what he really disapproved, for fear of infringing on the laws of politeness, yet he invariably treated all with candor and becoming deference, and was always ready to listen to whatever was offered in relation to the facts connected, or remedies proposed, in the case.

“Satisfied that, with all his boasted talents and acquired skill, the efforts of man for warding off the approach of death, or for restoring health and strength, were unavailing, except as they were rendered effectual by the blessing of the Almighty, he freely acknowledged the obligation resting upon us to make those efforts with reference to their receiving that blessing. But while he thus confessed the limited powers of human agency in the dispensation of life and health, he nevertheless entertained a high estimate of his profession, and regarded it as a noble art, which conferred some of the choicest blessings on mankind: and in proportion to this high estimate was his contempt for and opposition to quackery in all its phases; and he failed not to speak in the most decided terms of disapprobation of those members admitted within the ranks of the profession who countenanced or who refused to oppose it.”

Dr. Hartshorne was elected a member of the Philadelphia Medical Society in 1805; of the American Philosophical Society in 1815, and of the College of Physicians in 1824. He was a frequent attendant of the meetings of these bodies at one time, and was a useful and influential member of the Medical Society and of



the College. He had an unconquerable dread of public speaking, however, and could not be induced to take a part in the debates.

Once, when present at a lively discussion of a question on which his experience had qualified him to determine far more conclusively than any one of the orators of the occasion, he was urged by a friend and former pupil who was sitting by his side to rise and express the views which he was known to entertain. His answer was, that nothing would induce him to attempt to make a speech at such a time on any subject however familiar.

In concluding our humble narrative we must draw the moral from Dr. Evans in his own truthful and appropriate language:—

“From the sketch of the life which we have now given, imperfect as it confessedly is, we think the lesson may be drawn, that every physician, whatever his station may be, but more especially those in the junior walks of the profession, should aim at eminence therein; and, under whatever unfavorable circumstances he may be placed, he should warm his heart and animate his endeavors with the conviction that success depends far more upon the native force and independence of character, upon untiring industry in the acquisition of a correct knowledge and application of the principles governing the science of medicine, and withal upon a straightforward honorable course of conduct, than upon the smiles of early patrons among the rich, or the fickle whims of fashion; and that, as he cherishes and acts upon these ennobling qualifications, he may look forward with confidence that they will force their way before the public attention, and finally secure him the success he deserves.”

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## JOHN HAVILAND.

JOHN HAVILAND, an American architect and engineer, but a native of England, was born December 15, 1792, and studied his profession with Elmes, the well-known writer upon architecture. In 1815, he went to Russia to enter the Imperial Corps of Engineers, in compliance with an invitation from his uncle, Count Mordwinoff, Minister of the Marine to the Emperor Alexander. Here, how-

ever, he met with the American Admiral and General, Von Sonntag, then in the service of Russia, whose representations induced him in the following year to emigrate to America. He was the first to introduce the radiating form in the construction of prisons; and he built the Pittsburg Penitentiary upon this plan. Subsequently he built the Eastern Penitentiary at Cherry Hill, Philadelphia, which became the standard for all similar edifices. To Mr. Haviland is due the entire merit of having introduced this novel and complete style of prison architecture, which soon attracted the attention of the entire civilized world; the prisons built by Mr. Haviland being examined by commissioners deputed for that purpose by the governments of England, France, Russia, and Prussia, by all of whom they were highly commended. Among the other principal edifices, built after the plans of Mr. Haviland, may be named the Hall of Justice at New York; the United States Naval Asylum at Norfolk; the New Jersey State Penitentiary; the State Penitentiaries at Missouri and Rhode Island; the Albany, Lancaster, Berks County, Pa., and many other jails; the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, Philadelphia; the State Insane Hospital, Harrisburg; the United States Mint, Philadelphia; the County Halls of Newark and York, as well as numerous churches and private mansions.

Mr. Haviland died at Philadelphia, March 28th, 1852, aged fifty-nine years.

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## EBENEZER HAZARD.

EBENEZER HAZARD, Postmaster-General of the United States, was a native of Philadelphia, and graduated at Princeton College in 1762. In 1782, he succeeded Mr. Bache as Postmaster-General, and continued in office until the adoption of the Constitution, in 1789. He died in Philadelphia in 1817, aged seventy-two years. He published a valuable work in reference to American history, which is often quoted, namely, "Historical Collections," two vo-

lumes, quarto, 1792, 1794; also "Remarks on a Report concerning Western Indians."

He was the father of Samuel Hazard and Erskine Hazard, who still (1859) survive him.

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## WILLIAM HEMBEL.

MR. HEMBEL was born in Philadelphia, September 24th, 1764. He studied medicine, and served as a volunteer in the medical department of the army, in Virginia, during a portion of the Revolution; but, owing to a deafness, which, he believed, would incapacitate him for duty as a practitioner, refused to apply for the diploma, which he was fully qualified to receive. He, however, practised for many years gratuitously among the poor of the city, and was, in other respects, conspicuous for benevolence. His favorite branch of study was chemistry. He was President of "The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia" until a short time previous to his death; he resigned, in consequence of advancing infirmity, in December, 1849. He was, also, for many years, an active member of "The Humane Society for the Recovery of Drowned Persons." He died on the 12th of June, 1851, in the eighty-seventh year of his age.

Mr. Hembel never married.

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## ALEXANDER HENRY.

BY S. AUSTIN ALLIBONE.

ALEXANDER HENRY was born in the north of Ireland, 1763, and died in Philadelphia 1847.

The record of the lives of those who have attained eminence by usefulness in the private walks of life is of peculiar value to society. An example of philanthropic zeal, steadily pursuing its

benevolent designs amidst the prevailing selfishness of business competition, and languor of slothful indulgence, will be productive of incalculable benefit to the community. The old and the middle-aged will be incited to at least occasional deeds of beneficence, and the young will earnestly covet the benedictions which follow the steps of him who proves himself a lover of his kind. The indolent will be shamed from his slothful indifference to the woes of his race, and the hard-hearted creditor find a strange pleasure in the unwonted exercise of mercy.

Such was the beneficial, we may say, the holy, influence exerted by the example of the merchant and philanthropist who forms the subject of this brief memoir. Of him it may be truly said that, "when the ear heard him, it blessed him; and, when the eye saw him, it gave witness to him. Because he delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and him that had none to help him. The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon him, and he caused the widow's heart to sing for joy."

Deprived by death, at the early age of two years, of paternal guidance and example, the care of his education devolved upon a brother (Alexander was the youngest of five children), who sent him to school, and directed his studies with a view to his entering the University, designing him for a professional life. The death of his tutor caused an interruption of his studies, and reflection upon his future course of life determined him to devote his attention to mercantile pursuits. But difficulties here presented themselves of no trifling character.

In a long-settled neighborhood, in a community where the natural increase of population is more than counterbalanced by emigration to the New World, no considerable augmentation of trade can be expected; and, that which is already established, generally flows in hereditary channels. The merchant transmits his capital and custom to his son or kinsman; or, if vacancies occur in proprietorship, they are usually filled by those who can command capital and custom for themselves. Under such circumstances, it is extremely difficult for a young man without means to purchase an interest in an old business, or successfully establish a new one. It is to the operation of these causes that we are indebted for many of the most valuable of our adopted citizens.

The youth of enterprising disposition, impatient for the profitable exercise of his industry, thus straitened at home by the want of capital, lends a willing ear to the narrations of successful thrift in a New World, where the channels of business are never full, and where industry and perseverance may calculate upon a sure reward.

The connections of Alexander Henry were in circumstances of comfort and respectability; but the estate inherited by his mother and her children from his father, was insufficient for the support of so large a family. Peace had now been declared between Great Britain and the United States, and unwonted activity in trade might be safely anticipated, and Alexander and his second brother determined to try their fortune in the land of promise.

Their passages were engaged, and the earnest-money paid, when the subject of our memoir experienced one of those severe disappointments which are more keenly felt in early days than at a later stage of existence, when we have learned from experience that neither sorrow nor joy are as bright or as dark as they appear to the youthful pilgrim in the great journey of life. Whilst fondly relying, in his uncertain prospects in a strange land, upon the counsel and guidance of an elder brother, this brother distressed him by the information that he had resolved to stay at home, and that if he ventured upon their intended enterprise, it must be alone.

This change of determination will appear the more excusable, when we consider the moving cause. Love was too strong for the young man. It was a sore trial to see his brother, his younger brother, too, venture upon a career of doubtful enterprise in a land of strangers; but young Henry had given his affections to another, and could he leave her,—perhaps forever? Mournfully, then, he said to Alexander, “I cannot go with you.” He remained at home, and married her to whom he had plighted his troth. This discouragement would have sufficed to dampen the courage of most youths, surrounded, too, by all the attractions of home, which must be exchanged for the face of strangers, and contact with those who felt no interest in the weal or woe of the young adventurer; but Alexander was not so easily disheartened.

He bade adieu to his native land, and sailed for America. Arrived in Philadelphia (this was in 1783, and in his twentieth year), his first care was the profitable disposal of some dry-goods which



he had brought from Ireland, and employment in some respectable mercantile house, which would fit him for usefulness in the walks of active life. By the medium of letters of introduction to a business firm in Philadelphia, he soon procured a small clerkship in a dry-goods establishment, at a salary of \$250 per annum. Now permanently settled, as he had reason to believe, in the city of his adoption (which continued to be his residence until the day of his death), with the prospect of gaining a respectable livelihood by his own exertions, without application for home relief, the young clerk did not, as is too often the case with business assistants, seek his own ease and consult self-indulgence, careless of the interests of his employers, so long as his own stipend was promptly provided for.

On the contrary, his diligence, tact, and energetic zeal in the duties of his post, so conspicuously challenged the attention of his employers, that in two months from his entrance into the store, he was made superintendent of a branch of the house, established purposely for the exercise of his industry and talents, and his salary advanced to \$1300 per annum. After laboring for some time in this subordinate capacity, he announced to a number of his friends in England and Ireland, his intention of commencing the commission business on his own account. The responses which his letters elicited were of the most gratifying and substantial character. Merchants are sufficiently alive to their own interests, to ascertain carefully the moral and business character of those to whom they propose to intrust their affairs. The character of the young merchant was already well known to his correspondents, and "manifest" after "manifest" exhibited the name of Alexander Henry appended to long invoices of desirable consignments. The confidence thus generously reposed was not abused. Those who tried the faithful agent once, were encouraged to make new ventures; and as successful agencies are naturally productive of increased correspondence, Mr. Henry found himself, within seven years from the commencement of business on his own account, absolutely crowded with consignments from the British mart.

The details of a mercantile career present but little interest to the general reader; yet there are principles involved in the "walk and conversation" of the conscientious merchant, which are essentially connected with the proper government of every department

of life. That noble integrity which scorns concealment and abhors deceit; that liberality which relieves distress, and by the golden alchemy transmutes despair into hope; that continual recognition of the All-seeing Eye, which marks what is left undone, or what is done amiss: these principles of life cannot be safely forgotten by any who seek for happiness in this world, or would find mercy in a judgment to come.

In 1807, Mr. Henry had acquired a large fortune by the proceeds of his commission business, and importations of British and India goods on his own account, and "though the annual profits of his business at that time were very large, and the business itself of the safest and most permanent character, he voluntarily relinquished it, on the principle that he had acquired a competency, and should be content to retire and give room for the enterprise and activity of others. . . . After the war of 1812, Mr. Henry was compelled to enter again into some of the details of commercial life. With the exception of this and one or two specific and very successful negotiations, he declined active business; and in 1818 addressed a circular to all his correspondents, apprising them of this determination."

The name of Alexander Henry was still a familiar and esteemed one among these numerous correspondents, and is now equally honored by their children; for Mr. Henry, senior, observing the business tact and intelligence of his nephew and namesake (whom, as a lad, he had sent for and brought up), enabled him to embark upon what has proved to be a mercantile career of great profit and reputation. Alexander Henry, of Manchester, is now the head of one of the largest dry-goods establishments in the world; the possessor of vast wealth, and recently represented a portion of the English constituency in the House of Commons.

And this is a proper occasion to speak of the subject of this memoir, as a merchant of affectionate heart and liberal hand. Every man of wealth and influence, in a mercantile community especially, has abundant opportunities of using a portion of that wealth and influence for the relief of distress and the diffusion of happiness. If he be a man favored with the blessed gift of consideration, he will not consider his duty discharged by the mere bestowal of alms or liberal contributions to charitable associations.

He knows that there are many stages between independence and the lowest abyss of poverty and destitution. The struggling merchant whose peace is destroyed by the apprehension of a bankruptcy which will entail mortification upon himself, and the deprivation of comfort to a beloved wife and children; the desolate widow who sighs in vain for a few hundreds of dollars which would establish her in a little business, the profits of which would afford bread to her famishing family; the novitiate who seeks employment, or the experienced clerk, who has the talent, but lacks the means, to start with fair prospects on the arena of commerce: surely such as these should be befriended by those whom Providence has blessed with opulence; and such did, indeed, find a friend in Alexander Henry!

So proverbial was his generosity, so well assured were those who had no helper, of finding one in this excellent man, that for almost half a century his house may be said to have been besieged by the friendless and the forsaken, the struggling and the despairing, the widow and the orphan. Many a half-ruined tradesman, many a heart-broken woman, who entered that well-known mansion the victim of gloomy apprehensions or consuming sorrow, went forth from the presence of Alexander Henry to cheer a mourning household with the glad tidings of relief for the present, and hope for the future.

In the appropriation of his benefactions, Mr. Henry was guided by that wisdom which was so conspicuous a feature of his business operations. Whilst not lavish beyond the proper demands of the occasion which called forth his bounty, he was always willing to bestow or lend large sums in cases which justified such liberality.

For a period of nearly half a century no man in Philadelphia was more generally known as a large contributor to institutions devoted to the promotion of religion and learning, the relief of poverty, and the reformation of delinquents of both sexes.

Mr. Henry was one of the prominent founders of the American Sunday School Union, as well as of its predecessor, the Philadelphia Sunday and Adult School Union. Over the latter Society he presided from the year 1817 until 1824, when it was merged in the former. Elected the President of the American

Sunday School Union upon its organization, he held such office until his decease.

He was also for several years previous to the close of his life the presiding officer of the Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church, of the House of Refuge, and of the Magdalen Society, besides being associated in the management of other religious or benevolent institutions.

He died August 13th, 1847, an event which produced a sensation in the community seldom felt at the withdrawal of one who had neither acquired or coveted political honors.

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## THOMAS CHARLTON HENRY, D.D.

DR. HENRY, eldest son of Alexander Henry, the President of the American Sunday School Union, was born at Philadelphia, September 2d, 1790, and graduated at Middlebury College, Vermont.

After pursuing theological studies at the seminary of the Presbyterian Church in Princeton, New Jersey, he entered the ministry.

He became the pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church in Charleston, South Carolina, and died there October 5th, 1827, after a short but brilliant career.

For talents, acquisitions, effective pulpit eloquence, usefulness, and holy zeal in the ministry, he was truly conspicuous.

He published "An Inquiry into the Consistency of Popular Amusements with a Profession of Christianity;" also "Letters to an Anxious Inquirer."



## EDWARD HESTON.

EDWARD HESTON was a brave officer in the Revolutionary Army. At the commencement of the war he volunteered his services, and received a Captain's commission. About the close of the contest he rose to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. He continued actively engaged through all the perils of that trying conflict. He it was to whom General Potter, with, perhaps, his whole brigade (then lying near the Gulf), owed their liberty, if not their lives. When Cornwallis left his quarters, in Philadelphia, intending to take General Potter by surprise, he marched at the head of five thousand men, crossing the river Schuylkill during the latter part of the night. Colonel Heston, being on the alert, had lodged that night a short distance from home; about daybreak, the enemy was discovered approaching near his farm, through which they had to pass, by a man whom he had stationed there for that purpose; they advanced and took the Colonel's horse with them. He immediately conveyed him the intelligence. The Colonel then fled on foot to one of his neighbors, borrowed a horse, and rode by a circuitous route, with all possible speed, until he got ahead of them. He soon arrived in Potter's camp, and found them just going to breakfast. At the request of General Potter, who was then in his marquee, he ran through and aroused the whole camp to arms, and then went to meet General Washington, who, with his army, he met crossing the Schuylkill at a bridge which had just been completed for the purpose. In consequence of the intelligence he brought, the Americans moved their quarters, and the British had the mortification to miss their anticipated conquest.

The next spring, the day previous to the battle of Germantown, he was one among others who, in consummation of a plan laid down by Washington to cut off the enemy's retreat from Philadelphia, went to the Middle Ferry and assisted in cutting away the rope which then extended across the river, notwithstanding there was a continual fire kept up by the enemy on the opposite bank.



It was his misfortune at one time, while reconnoitring the enemy's movements, to be taken prisoner by a troop of British horse, one of whom made a desperate blow with his sword, designing to take off his head; but, striking higher than he intended, struck the back part of his head, which occasioned the sword to glance, the mark of which deadly weapon went with him to his grave. He surrendered, and was afterwards sent to Long Island, where he was detained for seven months as a prisoner of war.

After the peace took place, he was elected to the State Legislature, then sitting in Philadelphia; he served in that capacity for some time. He then returned to his farm, on which he remained a few years; after which he received the appointment of Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of Philadelphia. He attended to the duties of that office for the term of four years, at the end of which his fellow-citizens elected him to the office of Senator; in the fulfilment of the duties of which office he spent eight successive winters.

Whether in the field, on the bench, or in the cabinet, during the whole of his services, no man was, perhaps, ever more devotedly attached to the cause of his country and the good of mankind.

For the last twelve or fifteen years of his life, we find him actively engaged in the respectable pursuits of the practical farmer, enjoying, to their fullest extent, the threefold blessings of health, peace, and competency; nor did he, for a moment, forget duly to appreciate the value of the blessed boon which, in early life, cost so much blood and treasure to establish. He used every effort of which his nature was capable to transmit it inviolate to posterity; and he was often heard to say that he should be happy to know every human being as comfortably situated as himself. Feeling and humane to all parts of animated nature; benevolent and liberal to the poor and afflicted; whenever merit made intercession, his spirit, not only of patriotism, but that of philanthropy, was coeval with his existence.

He died, on the 14th day of March, 1824, after a short illness, at his residence, in Hestonville, in the county of Philadelphia, aged seventy-nine years; during about sixty of which time he occupied the above patrimonial estate.

While in the Legislature he took a very active part in abolishing

slavery from his native State, and he considered it one of the most meritorious acts of his life. His ardent desire had invariably been for the final emancipation of all who are kept in bondage, not only in his own beloved country, but throughout the world.

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## DR. THOMAS T. HEWSON.

BY FRANKLIN BACHE, M.D.

THOMAS TICKELL HEWSON was born in London, on the 9th of April, 1773. He was the second son of William Hewson, the celebrated anatomist and physiologist, who died of fever, occasioned by a wound received in dissection, on the 1st of May, 1774, in the thirty-fifth year of his age, when the subject of this notice was but one year old. His mother was Mary Stevenson, daughter of Mrs. Margaret Stevenson, a widow lady, in whose house Dr. Franklin resided, while in London as agent of the Colony of Pennsylvania. She was a woman of cultivated mind and fine judgment. It was her good fortune to enjoy the friendship of Dr. Franklin to the day of his death; and her published correspondence with him evinces as well the extent of her acquirements, as the elegance of her style.

In March, 1781, at the age of eight years, young Hewson entered the school of William Gilpin, at Cheam, near London, where he received the rudiments of his education, and where he continued to reside until the summer of 1786, with the exception of five months in the winter of 1784–85, which he spent with Dr. Franklin, at Passy. He showed much aptitude for learning, and was called “little inquisitive Tom,” and “all soul and no body.” His mother, writing to a friend in September, 1783, remarks of him that “he bids fair, by the powers of his mind, to do honor to his name; for he outstrips all his competitors in learning.” In the summer of 1786, Mrs. Hewson removed to America with her children, and soon after her arrival, Thomas entered the Junior class of the College of Philadelphia, afterwards the University of Penn-

sylvania. He was prepared to graduate in 1788, but remained another year, in compliance with the advice of Dr. Ewing, the Provost of the College, who wished him to postpone his graduation on account of his youth. In July, 1789, he took the degree of Bachelor of Arts, speaking at the Commencement with much applause, and immediately afterwards began his medical studies with Dr. John Foulke. After having pursued his studies for nearly five years in Philadelphia, he returned to England in June, 1794, and, in the month of September following, entered St. Bartholomew's Hospital, as one of the two house-surgeons. In November, 1795, he went to Edinburgh, where he remained until July, 1796, when private business compelled him to return to London. In that city he was detained until July, 1800, when he returned to America. During his absence abroad, he had the misfortune to lose his mother, who died on the 14th of October, 1795, at Bristol, Pennsylvania, in the fifty-seventh year of her age.

Thus, after a course of medical and surgical studies, embracing a period of eleven years, he returned to America to enter upon the practice of his profession in this city. In November, 1806, he was appointed physician to the Walnut Street Prison, and served the institution faithfully until March, 1818, when he resigned. His services in this institution were signalized by his devoted attentions to the prisoners during the prevalence of a dangerous and malignant typhus, which broke out in December, 1817, and continued until the succeeding March. So highly did the Inspectors of the prison estimate the services of Dr. Hewson, that they presented to him a handsome silver vase, bearing the following inscription:—

A Tribute to Humanity.  
The Inspectors of the Prison  
of the  
City and County of Philadelphia  
to

DR. THOMAS T. HEWSON;

Commemorative of his distinguished professional services during the prevalence  
of malignant typhus fever in the winter of 1817-18.

The correspondence which passed between the Committee of the Inspectors of the Prison and Dr. Hewson, on the occasion of the presentation of the vase, does equal credit to both parties.

In September, 1811, Dr. Hewson was elected one of the surgeons of the Philadelphia Almshouse, an appointment which he held for many years. In 1815, he published a translation from the French of the valuable work of Swediaur on Syphilis. In December, 1816, he was elected Professor of Comparative Anatomy in the Department of Natural Science of the University of Pennsylvania; but it does not appear that he delivered a course on the subject until the spring of 1818. It is probable, also, that this was the only course he gave under his appointment. Knowledge and zeal are not the only prerequisites of success in teaching a branch of science. The importance of the subject must be appreciated by a sufficient number of votaries to afford the teacher a class of pupils; for, without recipients of his knowledge, his fitness to impart instruction must be in vain.

In January, 1817, he was appointed physician to the Orphan Asylum, a situation which he held for twenty years; and in November, 1818, he was chosen one of the surgeons of the Pennsylvania Hospital, in the place of Dr. Dorsey, deceased, and continued to hold the appointment until, May, 1835, a period of nearly seventeen years, when he resigned.

Dr. Hewson largely contributed to the formation and revision of our National Pharmacopœia, in fulfilment of various appointments, made chiefly by this College. Although the project of forming our present National Pharmacopœia originated with Dr. Lyman Spalding, who submitted his plan to the New York County Medical Society, in 1817; yet it is due to this College to recall to recollection its early though unsuccessful efforts to accomplish the same desirable object. On the 1st of May, 1787, Dr. John Morgan proposed to the College to form a Pharmacopœia for Pennsylvania. This proposition does not appear to have been acted upon until June of the following year, when a committee was appointed to consider it. In April, 1789, a draught of a letter was reported, to be addressed to the "most respectable practitioners of the United States," in which the importance of a National Pharmacopœia is referred to. This appears to have elicited a communication from Dr. James Tilton, of Delaware, addressed to the College the succeeding year, containing suggestions in relation to the formation of the work. In 1791, Dr. Benjamin Smith



Barton was appointed on the Pharmacopœia Committee; and, in November, 1792, the committee made its first report. The subject was allowed to sleep until 1794, when Dr. Parke was added to the committee. Nothing appears on the minutes respecting the committee until April, 1797, when it made its second report; and, in the following June, the report being again read, the recommendation of the committee was adopted, "that an enumeration be made of all medicinal substances and pharmaceutical processes as shall appear useful and proper to compose the intended Pharmacopœia." Drs. Griffitts, Barton, and James, were appointed to make the enumeration; but it does not appear by the minutes that they ever fulfilled the duties of their appointment.

Nothing further appears on the minutes of the College in relation to a Pharmacopœia until February, 1819, when the College acted on the Circular of the Medical Society of the State of New York, setting forth Dr. Spalding's plan, which, by resolution, was approved of. This plan contemplated the assembling of four district Conventions, severally composed of medical delegates from the Northern, Middle, Southern, and Western States, each charged with the duty of compiling a Pharmacopœia, and of electing one or more delegates to a General Convention, to meet at Washington City on the 1st of January, 1820, to which the district Pharmacopœias were to be referred, with authority to form from them a single national work. In this important enterprise Dr. Hewson took a leading part. He was appointed by this College one of the Delegates to the Convention of the Middle District, which met in Philadelphia; by the Middle District Convention, one of its delegates to the General Convention at Washington; and by the latter body, as a member of the Committee of Publication, which assembled in New York. Thus, in every stage of its preparation, the first edition of our National Pharmacopœia received the benefit of his efficient services.

The National Medical Convention provided for the revision of the Pharmacopœia at the end of ten years. In view of this revision, the College, in April, 1828, appointed a committee, consisting of Drs. Hewson, Hartshorne, and Wood, to report amendments, corrections, and additions to the work; and at a subsequent period the writer was added to the committee. This committee held more than one hundred meetings at Dr. Hewson's house, and, in



November, 1829, made its final report, in the form of a draught of a Pharmacopœia, fully written out, and prepared for the press. The writer can bear testimony to the efficient services, rendered by Dr. Hewson as chairman of this committee. The College adopted the draught, thus prepared, and directed it to be presented by its delegates to the Washington Convention of 1830, as a contribution towards the revision of the National Pharmacopœia. The draught was adopted by the Convention, with the condition that it be submitted to a Committee of Revision and Publication, consisting of a chairman and two members from each of the eight principal cities of the Union. Dr. Hewson was appointed chairman of this committee, and was authorized by the College to have a sufficient number of manuscript copies of the draught prepared for transmission to the distant members of the committee, with a view to obtain their written comments thereon. These having been received, the committee met in Philadelphia, considered the suggestions they contained, agreed upon the final amendments, and superintended the publication of the work.

Nor did the labors of Dr. Hewson, in connection with the Pharmacopœia, terminate here. In May, 1838, preparatory to the then approaching decennial revision, Dr. Hewson was again appointed chairman of the committee for revising the work. The labors of the committee on this occasion continued through a period of twenty months, and their result was placed before the College in a report, made at a special meeting, held in December, 1839. The report was accompanied by a draught of a revised Pharmacopœia, which, upon being presented to the Convention of 1840, was adopted as the basis of the future work. Dr. Hewson's labors, as chairman of this committee, form the last official services rendered by him in connection with our National Pharmacopœia.

On the 17th of August, 1820, during the epidemic prevalence of yellow fever in this city, Drs. Hewson and Chapman offered their services to the Board of Health, to attend the Yellow Fever Hospital. This offer was accepted; and, on the 19th, the Board, on the representation of the physicians as to the entire inadequacy of the temporary hospital, resolved to open immediately the east wing of the City Hospital, at Bush Hill, for the reception of patients. After the treatment of thirty-one cases, the hospital was closed on the

9th of October following. In a report made by the attending physicians to the Board, they gave it as their opinion that the yellow fever of that season presented more of the character of typhoid malignity than in any preceding year, and recorded their impression that, of the different remedies they had employed, the oil of turpentine had the strongest claims to attention. In the month of December following, the City Councils addressed a number of queries to this College in relation to the proper measures to be taken to secure the city from the invasion of malignant fever. Drs. Hewson, Griffitts, and Emlen were appointed a committee to answer these queries; and in their report, which was adopted by the College, they strongly recommended, among other measures, the prosecution of the plan, then in contemplation, "for removing the whole of the buildings from the east side of Front Street, inclusive, to the river, beginning at Vine and ending at South Street, according to the original plan of William Penn, the wise and intelligent founder of the city."

In 1822, Dr. Hewson established a private medical school in Library Street, consisting of himself as teacher of Anatomy and the Practice; Dr. Thomas Harris, of Surgery; Dr. Meigs, of Physiology and Midwifery; and the writer, of Chemistry and Materia Medica. The school continued with this organization for several years, during which period Dr. Hewson gave an annual course of lectures on Anatomy.

On the 5th of July, 1832, the Board of Health established a "Cholera Medical Board," composed of twelve physicians from the city and districts, and the port physician. On the 10th of July, Dr. Hewson was appointed a member of this Board, and, at its first meeting, was elected its President. On the organization of the several cholera hospitals and stations, he was appointed physician-in-chief, which situation he filled until the dissolution of the Board and the closing of the hospitals on the 30th of October following. His attention to the responsible duties of his appointment was unremitting. He visited daily the city hospitals, under the immediate care of his assistants, and was ever ready to render his professional aid to the several hospital physicians, when requested to afford it. His whole intercourse with his colleagues in the Board, and with the physicians of the several hospitals, was marked

by dignity and urbanity, which commanded their respect, and at the same time attached them to his person. The discretion with which he exercised his authority, is well described in the following extract from a letter, received by the writer from a friend, who was one of his colleagues during the existence of this epidemic, and well acquainted with his services. He remarks, that "though the duties of his station were sufficiently delicate, and required of him, on more than one occasion, an exercise of authority, and a reversal of the decision of the physicians placed under his superintendence, yet not a single angry feeling was excited; and in no instance was there an appeal from his decisions made to the Board. So judiciously and kindly was his authority exercised, that the self-esteem of his adjuncts was never wounded."

At the close of his services, the Board of Health made him a handsome pecuniary acknowledgment; "not," they remark, "as a compensation for the invaluable services rendered by him to the suffering poor of the city and county during the prevalence of the recent epidemic; but as an expression, in a pecuniary form, of their high estimate of his unremitting attention to the duties of a situation, at once onerous and responsible, which he was induced to accept, at their request, at a season of uncommon alarm and excitement."

Dr. Hewson, during the course of his long life, received scientific honors from several societies and institutions. He was elected a member of the Edinburgh Medical Society in 1796, of the American Philosophical Society, and of the College, in 1801, of the Philadelphia Medical Society in 1804, of the Philadelphia Linnæan Society in 1813, and of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia in 1821. In 1822, the honorary degree of Doctor of Medicine was conferred on him by the Medical Department of Harvard University. He was a contributor to the Philadelphia Dispensary, served the institution for many years as consulting surgeon, and was one of its Managers at the time of his death. For many years he was an active member of the American Philosophical Society, and officiated either as one of its secretaries or curators from 1803 to 1822, inclusive. His services in connection with this College need not be dwelt upon, as they are known to most of the Fellows. He filled successively the offices of secretary

and censor, with the exception of one year, from July, 1802, to April, 1835, when he was chosen Vice-President; and in the month of July following, on the death of Dr. James, he was elected President, which office he continued to hold to the time of his death, embracing a period of more than twelve years. It is fresh in the memory of all of us, with what dignity he filled the chair,—a chair which had been graced by a Redman, a Shippen, a Kuhn, a Parke, and a James.

For the last three years of his life, Dr. Hewson suffered from uneasiness about the neck of the bladder, which caused the motion of his carriage to give him considerable pain. From time to time, especially after fatigue or exposure to sudden changes of temperature, his usual symptoms were aggravated, and he suffered painful attacks, attended with hæmaturia. The chief cause of his sufferings was ascertained to be an enlargement of the prostate, which, in connection with the morbid condition of the bladder, sufficiently explained his symptoms. About two weeks before his death, he was seized with an attack of his disease, more severe than on any previous occasion. Thirty-six hours before dissolution, he became somewhat comatose; but, up to that time, his intellect had been perfectly unclouded; and, though fully aware of the approach of death, he manifested the most perfect calmness and resignation. The fatal event took place on the 17th day of February, 1848, in the seventy-fifth year of his age, after an honorable career of professional exertion of nearly fifty years.

On the 5th of November, 1812, Dr. Hewson married Emily, second daughter of the late John Banks, Esq., of Washington City, by whom he had twelve children. Of these, seven sons and three daughters survive him. On the 11th of January, 1837, he met with a severe domestic calamity, in the death of his wife, after a matrimonial union of more than twenty-four years.



## RICHARD HILL.

RICHARD HILL was born in Maryland, brought up to the sea, and afterwards settled in Philadelphia, having married the widow of John Delaval, Hannah, the eldest daughter of Governor Lloyd, a woman of an excellent character, and very much esteemed and beloved. He was twenty-five years a member of the Governor's Council, divers times Speaker of the Assembly, held several offices of trust, was for several years First Commissioner of Property ; and, during the last ten years of his life, he was one of the provincial Judges.

His services in the religious Society of Friends, the Quakers, of which he was for many years an active member, are said likewise to have been very considerable. He had, by nature and acquisition, such a constant firmness as furnished him with undaunted resolution to execute whatever he undertook. His sound judgment, his great esteem for the English constitution and laws, his tenderness for the liberty of the subject, and his zeal for preserving the reputable order established in his own religious community, with his great generosity to proper objects, qualified him for the greatest services in every station in which he was engaged, and rendered him of very great and uncommon value in the place where he lived. He was a member of the City Council in 1708 and 1712, and Mayor in 1710, 15, 16, and 17. He died in Philadelphia, 9th September, 1729.

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## REV. WILLIAM P. HINDS.

FROM THE BANNER OF THE CROSS.

HUMAN life, in its course and effect, has been well compared to the streams by which the earth is tracked. The broad river flowing gently on its useful path, the more impetuous stream girded with the grandeur of nature, and rushing over precipices and waterfalls.



the noisy bustling torrent, and the gently gliding brook, all find counterparts in the life of man upon the earth. And the streams which most attract the notice of the world are often the least beneficent, while those whose silent, gentle flow, diffuses fertility and verdure in their course, pass on unnoticed and unknown. So is it also with individual life.

Such thoughts have been excited by the life of one who has just fulfilled his earthly course in our city. As our readers well know, those too common obituary notices, with which our columns might be filled, are little to our taste. But whenever a human life, however humble, illustrates some important principle, or impresses some useful example, we gladly embrace the opportunity of letting the light of such a life shine before men. Such was the life of him whose name heads this article—a life of enlarged and noble-hearted beneficence, seeking no applause from man, but rather retiring from human observation, to seek eternal satisfaction in the praise of God. It is difficult to place such an example in its full light before men without doing violence to that noble principle which shrunk from all parade and ostentation in acts of beneficence. We shall, however, say no more than simple truth warrants—far less than our heart would prompt us to speak.

As Mr. Hinds's life was not an eventful one, a few words will suffice to set forth its history. The position of his family, his early associations, and his large command of wealth, prove that his quiet, retired life, was a matter of choice and principle. While he might have held a high position in the society of his native island, or in England, he fixed his abode among strangers, seeking friends chiefly among the poor and needy, or those who were blessed by his wide-reaching charity.

William Prescod Hinds was born in Barbadoes, on the 3d day of June, 1795. His family was one of the oldest and wealthiest in the island, of which his father was sometime President, and his brother the Attorney-General. His first cousin was Dr. Hinds, the Bishop of Norwich, and another cousin is thus spoken of by General Havelock, in his autobiography: "My most intimate friends at the Charter House were Samuel Hinds, William Norris, and Julius Charles Hare. Hinds, a man of taste, and a poet, spent his early years in travelling, married in France, distinguished himself in one

of the colonial assemblies of his native island, Barbadoes, at the period of slave emancipation, and died at Bath about 1847."

Mr. Hinds was educated chiefly in England, in the celebrated school of Mr. Phillips, at Frenchay, where he had for his school-mates Archbishop Whateley, Dr. Hinds, Parsons, and Thomas Foster Barham. Those who had an opportunity of knowing his attainments, can bear witness that, in learning, he was no unworthy associate of these eminent scholars. His extensive and well-selected library of the choicest books seemed as much in his mind as on his shelves. In an accurate and critical knowledge of Latin and Greek, and their best writers, he had few, if any, superiors in this country, while his wonderful memory was stored with the richest treasures of history. He was ordained in 1819, by Dr. Howley, then Bishop of London, at the same time with his cousin, afterwards Bishop of Norwich. He returned to Barbadoes, and was successively rector of two parishes in that island. After a ministry of fourteen years, his health failed him, and he was incapacitated for public duty by a disease of the throat. It was then, in 1834, that he came to this country, and fixed his residence in Philadelphia. He officiated a few times in our churches, but, finding that his voice was nearly destroyed by disease, he was compelled to resign the public exercise of the ministry.

In the providence of God he was called to exercise his ministry in the use of a gift seldom bestowed upon his order,—the gift of earthly riches. To fulfil the duties of such a ministry is, perhaps, the most trying office to which man can be called. He who knew what was in man, whose penetrating eye discovered the temptations by which the human heart is most severely tried, said to His disciples, "How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God." And it has always been true that the stewardship of wealth, to be administered to the glory of God and the good of man, is a ministry wherein too few are found faithful. This is especially the case in our day. It was in this trying ministry that Mr. Hinds gave signal proof of his devotion and faithfulness. With ample means to have surrounded himself with all the show and glitter of pomp and vanity, he was distinguished for the plainness and simplicity of his mode of life. This was not caused by a parsimonious spirit, for he cared little for money, and

was most liberal, and even lavish, in using it for purposes of good. And the same unostentatious spirit, manifest in his living, distinguished all his acts of charity. It was long before he was known, even in our city, to be the possessor of so much wealth, and still longer before it was generally known that so large a portion of his riches was flowing silently and quietly in streams of beneficence all around. We speak from our own knowledge, when we say, that no case of real need was ever presented to him which did not meet a prompt and liberal response. And from every part of the country the missionaries who came to Philadelphia, asking aid for their poor churches, can bear witness to the cheerfulness and liberality with which he answered their appeals. Indeed, the number and variety of the applications made to him, when his character became more generally known, would have vexed and disturbed any one whose spirit was not rendered patient and forbearing by his sense of duty.

But Mr. Hinds did not satisfy himself with the mere fact of giving freely a due proportion of his riches,—he exercised the greatest care and judgment in the application of his charity, though its sunshine fell upon the evil as well as the good. He began with his own parish, of which he was a large and liberal benefactor, and then, as a churchman and a minister, he recognized the authority of his Bishop, by placing at his disposal voluntary offerings, as well as readily answering all his requests. We learned by chance, that every Christmas season he placed in the Bishop's hands no inconsiderable sum, to be given to the more needy clergymen of the diocese. He also showed great discernment and noble liberality in the selection of young men, for whose education he, either in part or wholly, provided. His latest visits out of his house were, during the hard winter of last year, to the market, from which he returned with his carriage laden with supplies, forming the weekly provision of a number of poor families. But we shall not attempt an enumeration of his charities. Their record is on high,—their number and extent only known by Him "who seeth in secret."

One great principle on which Mr. Hinds acted, is especially worthy of mention. We design to commend it to the consideration of those to whom God has committed the ministry and stewardship of riches. He obeyed, in the practice of his life, that charge of the

Apostle as given in the Offertory : “ While we have time, let us do good unto all men.” He chose to distribute his charity with his own living hand, in the time God allotted him. He did not hoard his charity to bestow, when his wealth was no longer useful to him, in some great legacies which might attract the notice of the world. Had he done so, and concentrated in some munificent donations the sums which he has diffused in the daily, life-long practice of most catholic charity, his name would have sounded far and wide through the land, as a noble and liberal benefactor, and in public esteem this *post-mortem* charity would have fully atoned for a life unsanctified by one act of mercy. “ Rich in this world,” he heard that voice which charged him to be “ ready to give and willing to distribute, laying up in store a good foundation against the time to come.” His was the true charity which finds joy in beholding the results of its own benefits, which does good while it has the opportunity.

We deem this the proper exercise of the ministry of earthly riches. It is while we are on earth that we meet our Lord in his hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, and suffering brethren. If we pass him by then, no provision that we can make, after we have left the earth, shall atone for our neglect. “ This ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.” Mr. Hinds took every care that those who inherited his wealth should perpetuate the charity which he began in his life, not to end with his death. This was the best legacy he could bequeath.

It is hardly needful for us to add, that the end of such a man was peace. For more than a year he has calmly and tranquilly looked upon approaching death, knowing in whom he trusted. He never expressed a desire for longer life, or uttered one murmur at the dispensation which called him to quit this world. His affections were not set on earthly things, though he had at his command the most coveted attractions of earth. To his trying sickness was added the severe affliction of beholding his patient, gentle nurse, his partner in all life’s joys and sorrows, who sympathized with him in all his charity, stricken down by an alarming disease which prevented her soothing ministry in his last hours. There were loving hearts and gentle hands to take her place. And a few moments before his death, in a clear, calm voice, he thanked them for their kind and assiduous care. His latest act was to put forth his



hand and grasp, in a tender farewell, the hand of his beloved physician and devoted friend.

The contemplation of such a life and such a ministry carries our thoughts forward to the solemnities of the last great day. A lesson for our times is impressed upon the heart, as we hear that voice from the Great Shepherd, pointing to the objects of a life of blessed charity, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto Me."

He died, January 23d, 1859.

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## JOHN HENRY HOBART, D.D.

BISHOP HOBART, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in New York, was born in Philadelphia, September 14th, 1775, and graduated at Princeton College in 1793. In 1796 he became a tutor in that institution, where he remained two years; in 1798, was admitted to the order of Deacon; and, in 1800, became an Assistant Minister of Trinity Church in the city of New York. Within a short time after he entered upon the duties of this office, he was ordained priest by Bishop Prevost, the diocesan in New York at that period. Such was the reputation which he acquired both as a preacher and as an author, that he received, when only thirty-two years of age, the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Union College. In 1811, he became Assistant Bishop of the diocese of New York; and, on the death of Dr. Moore the year following, became the diocesan of that State. He had now an ample range for the exercise of those pre-eminent talents with which he was endowed: a scene of action more enlarged, and a better opportunity for swaying public sentiment, have seldom fallen to the lot of any one in the sacred profession, but, in the very height of his useful career, he was called from his earthly labors, September 12th, 1830. Short as was the period of his episcopate, he admitted more than one hundred persons to the first, and more than ninety to the second order of the ministry. He also consecrated seventy churches, confirmed not less than twelve thousand persons, and assisted in the



consecration of nine bishops. Among his publications, were "The Companion for the Altar;" "The Companion for the Festivals and Feasts;" "The Companion for the Book of Common Prayer;" "The Clergyman's Companion;" "A Collection of Essays on the subject of Episcopacy;" "An Apology for Apostolic Order and its Advocates;" "An Improved Edition of Mant and D'Oyly's Commentary on the Bible;" two volumes of sermons; and single sermons, addresses, catechisms, and tracts too numerous to be particularized.

Bishop Hobart was a true Philadelphian, and his friends, relations, and admirers, to a great extent, resided in this city. His duties called him to another city, but with the clergy and lay members of the Episcopal Church, his home was in his native city.

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## HENRY HOLCOMBE, D.D.

DR. HOLCOMBE, an eminent Baptist clergyman of the United States, and a native of Virginia, was born September 22d, 1762. He served as a captain in the Revolutionary War, but a short time after the conclusion of peace, he commenced preaching, and accepted a call to become pastor of a Baptist church at Pipe Creek, in South Carolina, where he labored successfully for the cause of religion, and was so highly esteemed that he was appointed a member of the South Carolina Convention which ratified the Constitution of the United States. In 1791, he became pastor of the church at the Euhaw, in Beaufort District, of the same State, where he manifested a deep interest in the cause of education, and labored to establish a college in Beaufort. In 1799 he removed to Savannah, and the following year became pastor of the Baptist church in that city. In 1800, Brown University conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. In 1810, he resigned his charge of the church in Savannah, and retired to Mount Enon for the purpose of recruiting his health, and while residing there was invited to settle in Beaufort, and also in Boston; but declined both offers, although he was afterwards settled over the First Baptist Church in Philadelphia, where he died, May 22d, 1824, at the age of sixty-two years.

## JACOB HOLGATE.

JACOB HOLGATE was a prominent and active public man for many years, and represented in part the county of Philadelphia in our State Legislature. He was an early friend of General Andrew Jackson for the Presidency of the United States. He was born at Chestnut Hill, the domicile of his ancestors, June 10th, 1767, and departed this life on the 18th September, 1832, in the sixty-sixth year of his age. He was one of the associates and friends of the editor of the old "Aurora," and his compeers were Dallas, Bache, Leib, and others, famous in the days of Jefferson, Madison, and Monroe, as the most active and influential Republicans of that period. Jacob Holgate was always esteemed for his candor and integrity, and when he had the means, liberal in acts of benevolence towards the deserving and industrious. On several occasions, in the Democratic State Conventions of Pennsylvania, his name was brought forward as a candidate for Governor; but it never obtained the requisite number of votes to place him before the people for their suffrages for that high office. Philadelphia has only once, since the days of Governor McKean, with a single exception, been favored with a candidate for chief magistrate of this State, and the prejudice still exists against any Philadelphian for that distinguished position.

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## LEVI HOLLINGSWORTH.

BY JOHN CARSON, M.D.

THE ancestors of Levi Hollingsworth were descended from residents of Chester, England. Valentine Hollingsworth, a member of the Society of Friends, having married the daughter of Henry Cornish, High Sheriff of London, unjustly executed in the reign of James II, to avoid the troubles of that period, with his family, accompanied William Penn to Pennsylvania in 1682. He was a

member of Assembly for Newcastle County, in 1683, and several succeeding years, and was one of the first Grand Jury empanelled in the Province.

His son, Henry Hollingsworth, assisted Thomas Holmes, the proprietor's surveyor, in laying out the plan of the city of Philadelphia. The journal of this labor mentions their fixing the first Jacob staff on the Schuylkill side. It has been stated, on his authority, that when William Penn first came into the Province, he caused an observation to be taken at Chester, at or about the house of William Wade, who then lived at the mouth of Chester Creek, with the intention of fixing the city there; but after the observation, on being informed he was not far enough north for the fortieth degree of north latitude, the extent then claimed by Lord Baltimore, he changed his intention, and placed the city where it now stands. Henry Hollingsworth accompanied his father to this country with William Penn, in 1682. In 1695, he represented Newcastle County in the House of Assembly, was Sheriff of Chester County the same year, appointed Deputy Master of the Rolls in 1700, and Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, and Clerk of the Peace, in 1707. From Chester he removed to Maryland, and settled at Elk, now Elkton, where he was appointed Surveyor of Cecil County by Lord Baltimore. His son, Zebulon Hollingsworth, was President of the Court of Cecil County, which was formed, in provincial times, of nine magistrates of the county, commissioned by the Governor for that purpose. He reared on his paternal estate a numerous family of sons, several of whom settled in Baltimore, and greatly contributed by their industry and honest enterprise to the early growth of that city, on their first removal there only known as Port Tobacco.

Levi Hollingsworth, the subject of the present notice, was the son of Zebulon Hollingsworth, and was born at Elkton, on the 29th of November, 1739, and died in Philadelphia, March 24th, 1824, aged upwards of eighty-four years. Early taught, by parental example, the value of industry, at the age of eighteen he owned and sailed a sloop or shallop from Christiana to Philadelphia, bringing flour from the mills of Christiana, Elk, and the neighboring country, consigned to himself, the proceeds of which he took back with him, and accounted for to the millers. At that

time there was no standard weight for flour, each barrel differed in weight, and the invoices were long and complex. Possessing a mind capable of unwearied application, in the year 1760 he settled as a merchant in the city of Philadelphia, in which character he remained through sixty-four years, a conspicuous example of honesty, enterprise, economy, and industry. During that time he saw generation succeed generation, revolution follow revolution, and was permitted throughout to keep his integrity unhurt, either by the vanities, or passions, or mutations that surrounded him,—the view of which only served to root him deeper and stronger in the principles of rectitude.

His extensive business and upright dealing had gathered to him an influence throughout the State founded upon personal regard, entirely independent of political feeling ; an influence that, springing from such a cause, has, it is believed, never been exceeded. Having been a zealous and active supporter of the cause of American Independence, he used his means and exposed his person in behalf of the liberties of his country. As a merchant he suffered loss in his private fortune from supplies to her army, and gallantly served her in the field as a member of the original troop of City Cavalry, which has been continued to the present day as a military corps. From a certificate given to Mr. Hollingsworth by the first captain of that body, Abraham Markoe, Esq., in 1803, it appears that the Philadelphia Troop of Light Horse was originally composed of gentlemen of respectability, who voluntarily associated, in the year 1774, under that denomination. They were equipped at their own expense, and supported themselves, chose their own officers, and volunteered their services. Of Mr. Levi Hollingsworth it is stated by Mr. Markoe that he was among the first of the associates, and always conducted himself in a soldierlike and gentlemanly manner. He was sent to Canada with the specie for the payment of General Montgomery's army when investing Quebec, and employed in many other special services, all of which were performed with fidelity. A similar testimony has been furnished by the second captain of the Troop, Samuel Morris, Esq. To this distinguished body he served as Quarter-master, and has in the same kind and handsome manner been publicly spoken of by his former comrades in arms, Captain John Dunlap and William Hall,



Esq. As a politician, Mr. Hollingsworth belonged to the Federal party, to which he was led by his own convictions, as well as a personal regard for its great head, General Washington. Of this he was an active member and leader in Philadelphia, presiding at meetings of the party, and exerting such influence in its behalf as occasionally to bring upon himself the calumny of the opposition, whose detraction in fact, brought out the testimony which has been cited.

His person was spare, but he was active and energetic in everything he undertook. His temper was quick and easily excited, but the spark that the first impulse elicited, fell on a heart the most compassionate and generous; he was more apt to censure himself than to suspect others, and this peculiar disposition laid him open to repeated imposition from the same hands. This may be considered a weakness, but forgiveness was an element of his character, and in view of another and a better world he freely forgave every one his trespasses.

Although his ancestors came to this country as Friends, it does not appear that their descendants continued in that faith. Mr. Hollingsworth was an Episcopalian, and an attendant upon the services of St. Paul's Church, in Third Street. In the belief of the Protestant Episcopal Church he lived and died, in peace with all mankind, declaring that his hope rested solely on the merits and mediation of his Redeemer.

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## FRANCIS HOPKINSON.

FRANCIS HOPKINSON was born in Philadelphia in 1738. His father, Thomas, was an Englishman, who came to this city, having secured, it is said, government patronage, through his marriage with the niece of the Bishop of Worcester. He assisted Dr. Franklin in his discoveries in electricity, and actively promoted the liberal improvements of the day. Upon his death, his widow directed the education of the son, who was sent to College, now the University of Pennsylvania. He afterwards studied law. In 1761, he served



as secretary in a conference held on the banks of the Lehigh, between the Government of Pennsylvania and several Indian nations. One of his poems, "The Treaty," celebrates the event. In 1765, he was in England, remaining there two years, and passing his time between town and country. On his return to America, he resided at Bordentown, New Jersey, where he married Miss Ann Borden, of that place. His pretty story, written in the fashion of Arbuthnot's "John Bull," though in a milder vein, was published with great success, in a pamphlet, in 1774. It represents England as a nobleman, possessed of a valuable farm, and with a great number of children and grandchildren, for the government of whom he had entered into various compacts. Parliament he represented as his wife, chosen for him every seven years by the family. The fortunes of the American settlers are depicted, and the encroachments of Parliament none the less forcibly presented in the humorous description. The chapters end with a broken prophetic sentence: "These harsh and unconstitutional proceedings of the overseer so highly irritated Jack, and the other families of the new farm, that . . . . *Cetera desunt.*" The author's "Prophecy," in 1776, and "Political Catechism," in 1777, helped to work out the sequel. The latter is a set of queries and answers respecting Lord North and the conduct of the war, ending with a tribute to Washington, "Who has the chief command of the American Army?" "His Excellency, General Washington!" "What is his character?" "To him the title of Excellency is applied with peculiar propriety. He is the best and the greatest man the world ever knew. In private life, he wins the hearts and wears the love of all within the circle of his acquaintance. In his public character, he commands universal respect and admiration. Conscious that the principles on which he acts are indeed founded on virtue and truth, he steadily pursues the arduous work, with a mind neither depressed by disappointment and difficulties, nor elated with temporary success. He retreats like a general, and attacks like a hero. Had he lived in the days of idolatry he had been worshipped as a god. One age cannot do justice to his merit; but a grateful posterity shall, for a succession of ages, remember the great deliverer of his country." Hopkinson represented New Jersey in the General Congress of 1776, and signed the Declaration of Independence. His

"Battle of the Kegs," written about this time, and celebrating an actual incident, has been the most popular of American Revolutionary ballads. His humorous handling of Rivington, the royal printer at New York, is among his best political squibs.

When the war was concluded, a new General Government was to be established, and local difficulties overcome. Hopkinson's pen here achieved some of the greatest triumphs in exposing the dissensions and absurdities of State politicians. His "New Roof," an allegory, containing, in substance, the argument of the debate in the Convention of Pennsylvania, in 1787, met to consider the Constitution of the United States, is a masterly production, and his song on the subject has happily preserved its spirit in verse.

His sharp raillery, in his essay, did much to mitigate the excessive litigation and newspaper controversies of the day. In his "Typographical Mode of Conducting a Quarrel," he anticipated Southey's fashion of telling his bear story in the Doctor, by gradations of type. The paper made two belligerents of the day, a merchant and a lawyer, who were oppressing the public in the newspapers, ridiculous. It proposed a new style of printing for different degrees of abuse and invective,—various type, from five-line pica to minion, through French canon downwards. "There is no looking," says he, "at the first page of the 'Daily Advertiser,' without imagining a number of people hallooing and bawling to you to buy their goods or lands, to charter their ships, or to inform you that a servant or a horse hath strayed away. For my part, I am so possessed with this idea that, as soon as I take up the paper of the day, I turn over to the articles of intelligence as quick as possible, *lest my eyes should be stunned by the ocular uproar* of the first page." His "Thoughts on the Disease of the Mind; with a Scheme for Purging the Moral Faculties of the Good People of Pennsylvania," proposes that a weekly and daily newspaper should be expressly set apart and acknowledged as receptacles for all the filth and scandal of the town. The treatment is rather Swiftian, in occasional coarseness, but the satire is truthful. He compares the humors of the mind to the secretions of the body: "A sarcasm is nothing more than spitting; and so it is usual to say, 'He has spit his spite.' A crude attempt at humor is parallel with blowing one's nose, for such humors are apt to collect in cold constitutions;

and a young poetaster may be put into a considerable perspiration by the scorching flames of love."

Hopkinson was a reformer in the cause of education, and wrote various papers, laughing at its grammatical, metaphysical, and scientific perplexities. His "Modern Learning; Exemplified by a Specimen of a Collegiate Examination," in which a salt-box is put through the various categories of the sciences, is the best of his papers of this class. In his "Sketches of the Minor Morals and Manners of the Day," he was equally happy. His "Essay on Whitewashing" was mistaken for the composition of Franklin, and published among his writings. His friend, Dr. Rush, was a great admirer of his genius in these productions.

Hopkinson took pride in his share in planning the grand Fourth of July Federal Procession at Philadelphia in 1788; a minute account of which he prepared and has left in his writings. In 1779, he was made Judge of the Admiralty of Pennsylvania. His decisions while in the office were collected by him for the edition of his writings. In 1790, he was appointed, by the President, Judge of the District Court. He died the following year, May 9th, of an apoplectic fit. Before his death, he had prepared the carefully arranged collection of his literary productions for the press, which was published by Dobson, in Philadelphia, "in the dress in which he left them," in three octavo volumes, in 1792, bearing the title: "The Miscellaneous Essays, and Occasional Writings of Francis Hopkinson, Esq." His "L'Allegro Il Penserosa" were familiar adaptations of Milton.

In person, Judge Hopkinson is described as a lively man, a little below the common size, with small, but animated, features.—*Cyclopædia of American Literature*.

## JOSEPH HOPKINSON.

JUDGE HOPKINSON was the author of "Hail Columbia," and was born at Philadelphia, November 12th, 1770. He was the son of Francis Hopkinson. He was educated at the University of Pennsylvania, and studied law with Judge Wilson and William Rawle. He commenced the practice of his profession at Easton; but soon returned to Philadelphia, where he acquired high distinction as a lawyer. He was counsel for Dr. Rush in his libel suit against Cobbett; and for Judge Chase, of the Supreme Court of the United States, on the impeachment of that officer by the Senate. He was a member of the House of Representatives from 1815 to 1819, where he opposed the re-charter of the United States Bank, and maintained a high position as a public speaker.

After three years' residence at Bordentown, New Jersey, at the conclusion of his Congressional career, he removed again to Philadelphia, where he was appointed, in 1828, by President Adams, Judge of the United States District Court, an office held by his grandfather under the British Crown, and to which his father had been chosen, on the organization of the Judiciary, in 1789. He retained this office until his death, January 15th, 1842.

In addition to his professional duties, Judge Hopkinson filled the office of Vice-President of the American Philosophical Society, and President of the Philadelphia Academy of the Fine Arts, an institution which owes its foundation to his exertions. He was a warm friend of education, and delivered several addresses before literary societies. The circumstances under which his famous national song was written are pleasantly described by its author, in answer to a request for such information, made several years after its composition.

### HISTORY OF THE SONG OF HAIL COLUMBIA.

This song was written in the summer of 1798, when a war with France was thought to be inevitable, Congress being then in ses-







sion in Philadelphia, deliberating upon that important subject, and acts of hostility having actually occurred. The contest between England and France was raging, and the people of the United States were divided into parties for the one side or the other; some thinking that policy and duty required us to take part with *republican* France, as the war was called; others were for our connecting ourselves with England, under the belief that she was the great preservative power of good principles and safe government. The violation of our rights by both belligerents was forcing us from the just and wise policy of President Washington, which was to do equal justice to both, to take no part with either, but to keep a strict and honest neutrality between them. The prospect of a rupture with France was exceedingly offensive to the portion of the people which espoused her cause, and the violence of the spirit of party has never risen higher, I think not so high, as it did at that time on that question. The theatre was then open in our city; a young man, belonging to it, whose talent was as a singer, was about to take his benefit. I had known him when at school. On this acquaintance, he called on me on Saturday afternoon, his benefit being announced for the following Monday. He said he had twenty boxes taken, and his prospect was that he should suffer a loss, instead of receiving a benefit, from the performance; but that, if he could procure a patriotic song, adapted to the tune of "The President's March," then the popular air, he did not doubt of a full house; that the poets of the theatrical corps had been trying to accomplish it, but were satisfied no words could be composed to suit the music of that march. I told him I would try for him. He came the next afternoon, and the song, such as it is, was ready for him. It was announced on Monday morning, and the theatre was crowded to excess, and so continued, night after night, for the rest of the whole season, the song being encored and repeated many times each night, the audience joining in the chorus. It was also sung at night in the streets by large assemblies of citizens, including members of Congress. The enthusiasm was general, and the song was heard, I may say, in every part of the United States.

The object of the author was to get up an American spirit, which should be independent of, and above the interests, passions, and

policy of both belligerents, and look and feel exclusively for our own honor and rights. Not an allusion is made either to France or England, or the quarrel between them, or to what was the most in fault in their treatment of us. Of course, the song found favor with both parties: at least neither could disown the sentiment it inculcated. It was truly American, and nothing else, and the patriotic feelings of every American heart responded to it.

Such is the history of the song, which has endured infinitely beyond any expectation of the author, and beyond any merit it can boast of, except that of its being truly and exclusively patriotic in its sentiments and spirit.

The foregoing was written August 24th, 1840, for the "Wyoming Band," at Wilkesbarre, who had requested the author to give them an account of the occasion for which "Hail Columbia" was composed.

"AMOR PATRIÆ."

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### ISAAC T. HOPPER.

THE distinctive characteristics of this individual were so admirably portrayed in the newspapers and other periodicals published at the time of his death, that we shall make free use of them without hesitation. He was distinguished from his early life by his devotion to the relief of the oppressed colored race. He was an active member of the old Pennsylvania Abolition Society, and labored zealously with Dr. Benjamin Rush, Dr. Rogers, Dr. Wistar, and other distinguished philanthropists of the time. No man at that day, not even eminent judges and advocates, was better acquainted with the intricacies of law questions connected with slavery. His accurate legal knowledge, his natural acuteness, his ready tact in avoiding dangerous corners and slipping through unseen loop-holes, often gave him the victory in cases that seemed hopeless to other minds. In many of these cases, physical courage was needed as much as moral firmness; and he possessed these qualities in a very unusual degree.

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Being for many years an inspector of the public prisons, his practical sagacity and benevolence were applied with marked results. His enlarged sympathies had always embraced the criminal and the imprisoned, as well as the oppressed; and the last years of his life were especially devoted to the improvement of prisons and prisoners. In this department of benevolence he manifested the same zealous kindness and untiring diligence that had so long been exerted for the colored people.

He possessed a wonderful faculty for furnishing relief to all who were in difficulty and embarrassment. This caused a very extensive demand upon his time and talents, which were rarely refused when honestly sought, and seldom applied in vain.

Mrs. Kirkland prepared, under the title of "The Helping Hand," a small volume, for the benefit of "The Home" for discharged female convicts, containing a brief description of the institution, and a detail of facts illustrating the happy results of its operation. Its closing chapter is appropriately devoted to the following well-deserved tribute to the veteran philanthropist, to whose zeal and discretion that and so many similar institutions owe their existence, or to a large degree their prosperity.

"Not to inform the public of what it knows very well already, nor to forestall the volume now preparing by Mrs. Child—a kindred spirit—but to gratify my own feelings, and to give grace and sanctity to this little book, I wish to say a few words of Mr. Hopper, the devoted friend of the prisoner as of the slave; one whose long life, and whose last thoughts, were given to the care and succor of human weakness, error, and suffering. To make even the most unpretending book for the benefit of 'The Home,' without bringing forward the name of Isaac T. Hopper, and recognizing the part he took in its affairs, from the earliest moment of its existence until the close of his life, would be an unpardonable omission. A few words must be said, where a volume would scarcely suffice.

" 'The rich and the poor meet together, and the Lord is the Father of them all,' might stand for the motto of Mr. Hopper's life. That the most remote of these two classes stood on the same level of benevolent interest in his mind, his whole career made obvious; he was the last man to represent as naturally opposite those whom God has always, even 'to the end of the world,' made

mutually dependent. He told the simple truth to each with equal frankness; helped both with equal readiness. The palace awed him no more than the hovel suggested thoughts of superiority. Nothing human, however grand or however degraded, was a stranger to him. In the light which came to him from Heaven, all stood alike children of the Great Father; earthly distinctions disappearing the moment the sinking soul or the suffering body was in question. No amount of depravity could extinguish his hope of reform; no recurrence of ingratitude could paralyze his efforts. Early and late, supported or unsupported, praised or ridiculed, he went forward in the great work of relief, looking neither to the right hand nor to the left; and when the object was accomplished, he shrank back into modest obscurity, only to wait till a new necessity called for his reappearance. Who can number the poor, aching, conscious, despairing hearts that have felt new life come to them from his kind words, his benignant smile, his 'helping hand?' If the record of his long life could be fully written—which it can never be, since every day and all day, in company, in the family circle, with children, with prisoners, with the insane, 'virtue went out of him' that no human observation could measure or describe—what touching interest would be added to the history of our poor and vicious population for more than half a century past; what new honor and blessing would surround the venerated name of our departed friend and leader!

"But he desired nothing of this. Without claiming for him a position above humanity, which alone would account for a willingness to be wholly unrecognized as a friend of the afflicted, it is not too much to say that no man was ever less desirous of public praise or outward honor. He was even unwilling that any care should be taken to preserve the remembrance of his features, sweet and beautiful as they were, though he was brought reluctantly to yield to the anxious wish of his children and friends, that the countenance on which every eye loved to dwell should not be wholly lost when the grave should close above it. He loved to talk of interesting cases of reform and recovery, both because those things occupied his mind, and because everybody loved to hear him; but the hearer who made these disclosures the occasion for unmeaning compliment, as if he fancied a craving vanity to have prompted them, soon

found himself rebuked by the straightforward and plain-spoken patriarch. Precious indeed were those seasons of outpouring, when one interesting recital suggested another, till the listener seemed to see the whole mystery of prison life and obscure wretchedness laid open before him with the distinctness of a picture. For, strange as it may seem, our friend had under his plain garb—unchanged in form since the days of Franklin, to go no further back—a fine dramatic talent, and could not relate the humblest incident without giving it a picturesque or dramatic turn, speaking now for one character, now for another, with a variety and discrimination very remarkable. This made his company greatly sought, and as his strongly social nature readily responded, his acquaintance was very large. To every one that knew him personally, I can appeal for the truth and moderation of these views of his character and manners.

“A few biographical items will close what I venture to offer here.

“Isaac T. Hopper was born December 3d, 1771, in the township of Deptford, Gloucester County, New Jersey, but spent a large portion of his life in Philadelphia, where he served his apprenticeship to the humble calling of a tailor. But neither the necessity for constant occupation nor the temptations of youthful gaiety, prevented his commencing, even then, the devotion of a portion of his time to the care of the poor and needy. He had scarcely reached man's estate when we find him an active member of a benevolent association, and his volume of notes of cases, plans, and efforts, date back to that early period. To that time also we are to refer the beginning of his warm anti-slavery sentiment, a feeling so prominent and effective throughout his life, and the source of some of his noblest efforts and sacrifices. For many years he served as Inspector of Prisons in Philadelphia, and thus, by long and constant practical observation, was accumulated that knowledge of the human heart, in its darkest windings, that often astonished the objects of his care, when they thought they had been able cunningly to blind his eyes to their real character and intentions. After his removal to New York, and when the occasion for his personal labors in the cause of the slave had in some measure ceased or slackened, he threw his whole heart into the Prison Association, whose aims and plans of action were entirely in accordance with his views, and

indeed in a great degree based on his experience and advice. The intent of the Prison Association is threefold: first, to protect and defend those who are arrested, and who, as is well known, often suffer greatly from want of honest and intelligent counsel; secondly, to attend to the treatment and instruction of convicts while in prison; and, thirdly, on their discharge, to render them such practical aid as shall enable the repentant to return to society by means of the pursuit of some honest calling. This latter branch occupied Mr. Hopper's time and attention, and he devoted himself to it with an affectionate and religious earnestness that ceased only with his life. No disposition was too perverse for his efforts at reform; no heart was so black that he did not at least try the balm of healing upon it; no relapses could tire out his patience, which, without weak waste of means, still apostolically went on, 'hoping all things' while even a dying spark of good feeling remained. Up to February last did this venerable saint continue his abundant labors; when a severe cold, co-operating with the decay of nature, brought him his sentence of dismissal. He felt that it was on the way, and with the serious grace that marked everything he did, he began at once to gather his earthly robes about him and prepare for the great change, which no one could dread less. It was hard for those who saw his ruddy cheek and sparkling eye, his soft brown hair and sprightly movements, to feel that the time of his departure was drawing nigh; but he knew and felt it, with more composure than his friends could summon. It might well be said of this our beloved patriarch, that his eye was not 'dim, nor his natural force abated.' To the last of his daily journeyings through the city, for which he generally used the railroad, he would never allow the drivers to stop for him to get on or off the car, feeling, as he used smiling to observe, 'very jealous on that point.' Few ever passed him in the street without asking who he was; for not only did his primitive dress, his broad-brimmed hat, and his antique shoe-buckles attract attention, but the beauty and benevolence of his face was sure to fix the eye of ordinary discernment. He was a living temperance lecture, and those who desire to preserve good looks could not ask a more infallible receipt, than that sweet temper and outflowing benevolence which made his countenance please every eye. Gay and cheerful as a boy, he had ever some pleasant



anecdote or amusing turn to relate, and in all perhaps not one without a moral bearing, not thrust forward, but left to be picked out by the hearer at his leisure. He seemed born to show how great strictness in essentials could exist without the least asceticism in trifles. Anything but a Simeon Stylites in his sainthood, he could go among 'publicans and sinners' without the least fear of being mistaken by them for one of themselves. An influence radiated from him that made itself felt in every company, though he would very likely be the most modest man present. More gentlemanly manners and address no court in Christendom need require; his resolute simplicity and candor, always under the guidance of a delicate taste, never for a moment degenerated into coarseness, or disregard even of the prejudices of others. His life, even in these minute particulars, showed how the whole man is harmonized by the sense of being

“‘Ever in the Great Taskmaster’s eye.’

“He died on the 7th of May, 1852, in his eighty-first year, and a public funeral in the Tabernacle brought together thousands desirous of showing respect to his memory.”

Mrs. Child has written a full, and, in many respects, an exceedingly interesting biography of the subject of this memoir, towards the close of which she says:—

“From the numerous notices in papers of all parties and sects, I will merely quote the following. ‘The New York Observer’ thus announces his death:—

“‘The venerable Isaac T. Hopper, whose placid, benevolent face, has so long irradiated almost every public meeting for doing good, and whose name, influence, and labors, have been devoted with an apostolic simplicity and constancy to humanity, died on Friday last, at an advanced age. He was a Quaker of that early sort illustrated by such philanthropists as Anthony Benezet, Thomas Clarkson, Mrs. Fry, and the like.

“‘He was a most self-denying, patient, loving friend of the poor, and the suffering of every kind; and his life was an unbroken history of beneficence. Thousands of hearts will feel a touch of grief at the news of his death; for few men have so large a wealth



in the blessings of the poor, and the grateful remembrance of kindness and benevolence, as he.'

" 'The New York Sunday Times' contained the following:—

" 'Most of our readers will call to mind, in connection with the name of Isaac T. Hopper, the compact, well-knit figure of a Quaker gentleman, apparently about sixty years of age, dressed in drab or brown clothes of the plainest cut, and bearing on his handsome, manly face, the impress of that benevolence with which his whole heart was filled.

" 'He was twenty years older than he seemed. The fountain of benevolence within freshened his old age with its continuous flow. The step of the octogenarian was elastic as that of a boy, his form erect as the mountain pine.

" 'His whole *physique* was a splendid sample of Nature's handiwork. We see him now with our "mind's eye," but with the eye of flesh we shall see him no more. Void of intentional offence to God or man, his spirit has joined its happy kindred in a world where there is neither sorrow nor perplexity.'

" I sent the following communication to 'The New York Tribune':—

" 'In this world of shadows, few things strengthen the soul like seeing the calm and cheerful exit of a truly good man; and this has been my privilege by the bedside of Isaac T. Hopper.

" 'He was a man of remarkable endowments, both of head and heart. His clear discrimination, his unconquerable will, his total unconsciousness of fear, his extraordinary tact in circumventing plans he wished to frustrate, would have made him illustrious as the general of an army; and these qualities might have become faults, if they had not been balanced by an unusual degree of conscientiousness and benevolence. He battled courageously, not from ambition, but from an inborn love of truth. He circumvented as adroitly as the most practised politician; but it was always to defeat the plans of those who oppressed God's poor; never to advance his own self-interest.

" 'Few men have been more strongly attached to any religious society than he was to the Society of Friends, which he joined in the days of its purity, impelled by his own religious convictions. But when the time came that he must either be faithless to duty

in the cause of his enslaved brethren, or part company with the Society to which he was bound by the strong and sacred ties of early religious feeling, this sacrifice he also calmly laid on the altar of humanity.

“ ‘During nine years that I lived in his household, my respect and affection for him continually increased. Never have I seen a man who so completely fulfilled the Scripture injunction, to forgive an erring brother, ‘not only seven times, but seventy times seven.’ I have witnessed relapse after relapse into vice, under circumstances which seemed like the most heartless ingratitude to him; but he joyfully hailed the first symptom of repentance, and was always ready to grant a new probation.

“ ‘Farewell, thou brave and kind old Friend! The prayers of ransomed ones ascended to heaven for thee, and a glorious company have welcomed thee to the Eternal City.’ ”

From the great number of graphic sketches given by the biographer, we select the following, as illustrative of the character of this “firm friend of human kind:”—

#### THE UMBRELLA GIRL.

“A young girl, the only daughter of a poor widow, removed from the country to Philadelphia to earn her living by covering umbrellas. She was very handsome; with glossy black hair, large beaming eyes, and ‘lips like wet coral.’ She was just at that susceptible age when youth is ripening into womanhood, when the soul begins to be pervaded by ‘that restless principle, which impels poor humans to seek perfection in union.’

“At a hotel near the store for which she worked, an English traveller, called Lord Henry Stuart, had taken lodgings. He was a strikingly handsome man, and of princely carriage. As this distinguished stranger passed to and from his hotel, he encountered the umbrella girl, and was attracted by her uncommon beauty. He easily traced her to the store, where he soon after went to purchase an umbrella. This was followed up by presents of flowers, chats by the wayside, and invitations to walk or ride; all of which were gratefully accepted by the unsuspecting rustic; for she was as ignorant of the dangers of a city as were the squirrels of her native

fields. He was merely playing a game for temporary excitement. She, with a head full of romance, and a heart melting under the influence of love, was unconsciously endangering the happiness of her whole life.

“Lord Henry invited her to visit the public gardens on the Fourth of July. In the simplicity of her heart, she believed all his flattering professions, and considered herself his bride elect; she therefore accepted the invitation with innocent frankness. But she had no dress fit to appear in on such a public occasion, with a gentleman of high rank, whom she verily supposed to be her destined husband. While these thoughts revolved in her mind, her eye was unfortunately attracted by a beautiful piece of silk, belonging to her employer. Could she not take it, without being seen, and pay for it secretly, when she had earned money enough? The temptation conquered her in a moment of weakness. She concealed the silk, and conveyed it to her lodgings. It was the first thing she had ever stolen, and her remorse was painful. She would have carried it back, but she dreaded discovery. She was not sure that her repentance would be met in a spirit of forgiveness.

“On the eventful Fourth of July, she came out in her new dress. Lord Henry complimented her upon her elegant appearance, but she was not happy. On their way to the gardens, he talked to her in a manner which she did not comprehend. Perceiving this, he spoke more explicitly. The guileless young creature stopped, looked in his face with mournful reproach, and burst into tears. The nobleman took her hand kindly, and said, ‘My dear, are you an innocent girl?’

“‘I am, I am,’ she replied, with convulsive sobs. ‘Oh, what have I ever done, or said, that you should ask me such a question?’

“The evident sincerity of her words stirred the deep fountains of his better nature. ‘If you are innocent,’ said he, ‘God forbid that I should make you otherwise. But you accepted my invitations and presents so readily, that I supposed you understood me.’

“‘What *could* I understand,’ said she, ‘except that you intended to make me your wife?’

“Though reared amid the proudest distinctions of rank, he felt no inclination to smile. He blushed and was silent. The heartless conventionalities of the world stood rebuked in the presence of

affectionate simplicity. He conveyed her to her humble home, and bade her farewell, with a thankful consciousness that he had done no irretrievable injury to her future prospects. The remembrance of her would soon be to him as the recollection of last year's butterflies. With her the wound was deep. In the solitude of her chamber she wept in bitterness of heart over her ruined air-castles. And that dress, which she had stolen to make an appearance befitting his bride! Oh, what if she should be discovered? And would not the heart of her poor widowed mother break, if she should ever know that her child was a thief?

“Alas! her wretched forebodings proved too true. The silk was traced to her; she was arrested on her way to the store, and dragged to prison. There she refused all nourishment, and wept incessantly. On the fourth day, the keeper called upon Isaac T. Hopper, and informed him that there was a young girl in prison, who appeared to be utterly friendless, and determined to die of starvation. The kind-hearted Friend immediately went to her assistance. He found her lying on the floor of her cell, with her face buried in her hands, sobbing as if her heart would break. He tried to comfort her, but could obtain no answer.

“‘Leave us alone,’ said he to the keeper. ‘Perhaps she will speak to me, if there is no one to hear.’ When they were alone together, he put back the hair from her temples, laid his hand kindly on her beautiful head, and said in soothing tones, ‘My child, consider me as thy father. Tell me all thou hast done. If thou hast taken this silk, let me know all about it. I will do for thee as I would for my own daughter; and I doubt not that I can help thee out of this difficulty.’

“After a long time spent in affectionate entreaty, she leaned her young head on his friendly shoulder, and sobbed out, ‘Oh, I wish I was dead. What will my poor mother say when she knows of my disgrace?’

“‘Perhaps we can manage that she never shall know it,’ replied he. Alluring her by this hope, he gradually obtained from her the whole story of her acquaintance with the nobleman. He bade her be comforted, and take nourishment; for he would see that the silk was paid for, and the prosecution withdrawn.

“He went immediately to her employer, and told him the story.



‘This is her first offence,’ said he. ‘The girl is young, and she is the only child of a poor widow. Give her a chance to retrieve this one false step, and she may be restored to society, a useful and honored woman. I will see that thou art paid for the silk.’ The man readily agreed to withdraw the prosecution, and said he would have dealt otherwise by the girl, if he had known all the circumstances. ‘Thou shouldst have inquired into the merits of the case,’ replied Friend Hopper. ‘By this kind of thoughtlessness, many a young creature is driven into the downward path, who might easily have been saved.’

“The kind-hearted man next proceeded to the hotel, and with Quaker simplicity of speech inquired for Henry Stuart. The servant said his lordship had not yet risen. ‘Tell him my business is of importance,’ said Friend Hopper. The servant soon returned and conducted him to the chamber. The nobleman appeared surprised that a stranger, in the plain Quaker costume, should thus intrude upon his luxurious privacy. When he heard his errand, he blushed deeply, and frankly admitted the truth of the girl’s statement. His benevolent visitor took the opportunity to ‘bear a testimony’ against the selfishness and sin of profligacy. He did it in such a kind and fatherly manner, that the young man’s heart was touched. He excused himself, by saying that he would not have tampered with the girl, if he had known her to be virtuous. ‘I have done many wrong things,’ said he, ‘but, thank God, no betrayal of confiding innocence weighs on my conscience. I have always esteemed it the basest act of which man is capable.’ The imprisonment of the poor girl, and the forlorn situation in which she had been found, distressed him greatly. When Friend Hopper represented that the silk had been stolen for *his* sake, that the girl had thereby lost profitable employment, and was obliged to return to her distant home to avoid the danger of exposure, he took out a fifty dollar note, and offered it to pay her expenses.

“‘Nay,’ said Isaac. ‘Thou art a very rich man, I presume. I see in thy hand a large roll of such notes. She is the daughter of a poor widow, and thou hast been the means of doing her great injury. Give me another.’

“Lord Henry handed him another fifty dollar note, and smiled as he said, ‘You understand your business well. But you have



acted nobly, and I reverence you for it. If you ever visit England, come to see me. I will give you a cordial welcome, and treat you like a nobleman.'

" 'Farewell, friend,' replied the Quaker. 'Though much to blame in this affair, thou hast behaved nobly. Mayst thou be blessed in domestic life, and trifle no more with the feelings of poor girls; not even with those whom others have betrayed and deserted.'

" When the girl was arrested, she had sufficient presence of mind to assume a false name, and, by that means, her true name had been kept out of the newspapers. 'I did this,' said she, 'for my poor mother's sake.' With the money given by Lord Stuart, the silk was paid for, and she was sent home to her mother well provided with clothing. Her name and place of residence forever remained a secret in the breast of her benefactor.

" Years after these events transpired, a lady called at Friend Hopper's house, and asked to see him. When he entered the room, he found a handsomely dressed young matron, with a blooming boy of five or six years old. She rose quickly to meet him, and her voice choked as she said, 'Friend Hopper, do you know me?' He replied that he did not. She fixed her tearful eyes earnestly upon him, and said, 'You once helped me when in great distress.' But the good missionary of humanity had helped too many in distress to be able to recollect her without more precise information. With a tremulous voice, she bade her son go into the next room for a few minutes; then dropping on her knees, she hid her face in his lap, and sobbed out, 'I am the girl who stole the silk. Oh, where should I now be, if it had not been for you!'

" When her emotion was somewhat calmed, she told him that she had married a highly respectable man, a Senator of his native State. Being on a visit in Friend Hopper's vicinity, she had again and again passed his dwelling, looking wistfully at the windows to catch a sight of him; but, when she attempted to enter, her courage failed.

" 'But I must return home to-morrow,' said she, 'and I could not go away without once more seeing and thanking him who saved me from ruin.' She recalled her little boy, and said to him, 'Look at that gentleman, and remember him well: for he was the best

friend your mother ever had.' With an earnest invitation to visit her happy home, and a fervent 'God bless you!' she bade her benefactor farewell."

#### PIERCE BUTLER'S BEN.

"In August, 1804, a colored man, about thirty-six years old, waited upon the Committee of the Abolition Society, and stated that he was born a slave to Pierce Butler, Esq., of South Carolina, and had always lived in his family. During the last eleven years, he had resided most of the time in Pennsylvania. Mr. Butler now proposed taking him to Georgia; but he was very unwilling to leave his wife, she being in delicate health and needing his support. After mature consideration of the case, the Committee, believing Ben was legally entitled to freedom, agreed to apply to Judge Inskeep for a writ of *habeas corpus*; and Isaac T. Hopper was sent to serve it upon Pierce Butler, Esq., at his house in Chestnut Street.

"Being told that Mr. Butler was at dinner, he said he would wait in the hall until it suited his convenience to attend to him. Mr. Butler was a tall, lordly-looking man, somewhat imperious in his manners, as slaveholders are wont to be. When he came into the hall after dinner, Friend Hopper gave him a nod of recognition, and said, 'How art thou, Pierce Butler? I have here a writ of *habeas corpus* for thy Ben.'

"Mr. Butler glanced over the paper, and exclaimed, 'Get out of my house, you scoundrel!'

"Feigning not to hear him, Friend Hopper looked round at the pictures and rich furniture, and said with a smile, 'Why, thou livest like a nabob here!'

"'Get out of my house, I say!' repeated Mr. Butler, stamping violently.

"'This paper on the walls is the handsomest I ever saw,' continued Isaac. 'Is it French, or English? It surely cannot have been manufactured in this country.' Talking thus, and looking leisurely about him as he went, he moved deliberately toward the door; the slaveholder railing at him furiously all the while.

"'I am a citizen of South Carolina,' said he. 'The laws of

Pennsylvania have nothing to do with me. May the devil take all those who come between masters and their slaves ; interfering with what is none of their business.' Supposing that his troublesome guest was deaf, he put his head close to his ear, and roared out his maledictions in stentorian tones.

" Friend Hopper appeared unconscious of all this. When he reached the threshold, he turned round and said, ' Farewell. We shall expect to see thee at Judge Inskeep's.'

" This imperturbable manner irritated the hot-blooded slaveholder beyond endurance. He repeated more vociferously than ever, ' Get out of my house, you scoundrel ! If you don't, I'll kick you out.' The Quaker walked quietly away, as if he didn't hear a word.

" At the appointed time, Mr. Butler waited upon the Judge, where he found Hopper in attendance. The sight of him renewed his wrath. He cursed those who interfered with his property ; and taking up the Bible, said he was willing to swear upon that book that he would not take fifteen hundred dollars for Ben. Friend Hopper charged him with injustice in wishing to deprive the man of his legal right to freedom. Mr. Butler maintained that he was as benevolent as any other man.

" ' Thou benevolent !' exclaimed Friend Hopper. ' Why, thou art not even just. Thou hast already sent back into bondage two men, who were legally entitled to freedom by staying in Philadelphia during the term prescribed by law. If thou hadst a proper sense of justice, thou wouldst bring those men back, and let them take the liberty that rightfully belongs to them.'

" ' If you were in a different walk of life, I would treat your insult as it deserves,' replied the haughty Southerner.

" ' What dost thou mean by that ?' asked Isaac. ' Wouldst thou shoot me, as Burr did Hamilton ? I assure thee I should consider it no honor to be killed by a member of Congress ; and surely there would be neither honor nor comfort in killing thee ; for, in thy present state of mind, thou art not fit to die.'

" Mr. Butler told the Judge he believed that man was either deaf or crazy when he served the writ of *habeas corpus* ; for he did not take the slightest notice of anything that was said to him. Judge

Inskeep smiled as he answered, 'You don't know Mr. Hopper as well as we do.'

"A lawyer was procured for Ben; but Mr. Butler chose to manage his own cause. He maintained that he was only a sojourner in Pennsylvania; that Ben had never resided six months at any one time in that State, except while he was a member of Congress; and, in that case, the law allowed him to keep his slave in Pennsylvania as long as he pleased. The case was deemed an important one, and was twice adjourned for further investigation. In the course of the argument, Mr. Butler admitted that he returned from Congress to Philadelphia, with Ben, on the 2d of January, 1804, and had remained there with him until the writ of *habeas corpus* was served, on the 3d of August, the same year. The lawyers gave it as their opinion that Ben's legal right to freedom was too plain to admit of any doubt. They said the law to which Mr. Butler had alluded was made for the convenience of Southern gentlemen, who might need the attendance of their personal slaves, when Congress met in Philadelphia; but, since the seat of government was removed, it by no means authorized members to come into Pennsylvania with their slaves, and keep them there as long as they chose. After much debate, the Judge gave an order discharging Ben from all restraint, and he walked off rejoicing.

"His master was very indignant at the decision, and complained loudly that a Pennsylvania court should presume to discharge a Carolinian slave.

"When Ben was set at liberty, he let himself to Isaac W. Morris, then living at his country seat, called Cedar Grove, three miles from Philadelphia. Being sent to the city soon after, on some business for his employer, he was attached by the Marshal of the United States, on a writ *De homine replegiando*, at the suit of Mr. Butler, and two thousand dollars were demanded for bail. The idea was probably entertained that so large an amount could not be procured, and thus Ben would again come into his master's possession. But Isaac T. Hopper and Thomas Harrison signed the bail-bond, and Ben was again set at liberty, to await his trial before the Circuit Court of the United States. Bushrod Washington, himself a slaveholder, presided in that court, and Mr. Butler was sanguine that he should succeed in having Judge Inskeep's decision



reversed. The case was brought, in October, 1806, before Judges Bushrod Washington and Richard Peters. It was ably argued by counsel on both sides. The court discharged Ben, and he enjoyed his liberty thenceforth without interruption."

Since his death, there has been established, in the city of New York, a well-organized and efficient institution, for the purpose of improving the condition of discharged convicts, bearing the title, "THE ISAAC T. HOPPER HOME."

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## WILLIAM E. HORNER, M.D.

BY SAMUEL JACKSON, M.D.

DR. HORNER was a native of Virginia, a State that has contributed largely to the medical capital, character, and eminence of Philadelphia. He was born at Warrenton, Fauquier County, on the 3d of June, 1793. His parentage was highly respectable. His grandfather, Mr. Robert Horner, emigrated from England before the Revolution. He had visited the Colonies previously as an agent of his brother on a commercial adventure. From the advantages presented to him, he was induced to return, and to make it his permanent home. He settled in Charles County, Maryland, whence, in an after-time of life, he removed to Prince William, Virginia. Soon after his arrival, he married Mrs. Samuel Claggett, widow of the Rev. Samuel Claggett, of the Maryland Diocese. On his mother's side, he belonged to a medical lineage. This lady was the daughter of Dr. Gustavus Brown, a Scotch physician, who acquired great professional reputation, and accumulated a handsome fortune, which he invested in real estate in Scotland. In consequence of this step, on his death, this property passed, by the Scotch law of entail, to his heir-at-law. The elder son, Dr. Gustavus Brown, received a medical education in Edinburgh. He settled at Port Tobacco, Maryland. He was highly esteemed, not only as a physician, but as an educated gentleman. For a time, he occupied the post of Physician-General in the war of the Revo-



lution. He enjoyed the respect and esteem of General Washington, and was called in as consulting physician at the close of the malady which proved fatal to the Father of his Country, and plunged all America in the deepest gloom.

The second son of Dr. G. Brown was a minister of the Episcopal Church, and was father of Dr. William Brown, of Fairfax, Virginia, a physician who rose to professional eminence, and who also held the position of Physician or Surgeon-General in the army of the Revolution.

Samuel Claggett, the only son of Mrs. Horner by her first husband, also belonged to the medical profession. He was attached to the medical staff of the army, in the hospital department, under Dr. James Tilton, until the achievement of independence.

He subsequently settled in Warrenton, where he pursued his profession with great success.

The father of Dr. Horner was brought up to the mercantile profession in the counting-house of Mr. William Hartshorne, of Alexandria, father of the late Dr. Joseph Hartshorne, of this city. He subsequently had charge of a large mercantile establishment on the Potomac, and finally settled in Warrenton.

His mother was the daughter of Mr. William Edwards and Elizabeth Blackwell, and through her, in direct and collateral lineage, Professor Horner was connected with a large circle of relatives, embracing many names of worth and note in various professions and conditions of life.

The parents of Professor Horner were deeply imbued with the sentiments and precepts of religion, of the duties of which they were strictly observant, commingled with no false austerities, which they exemplified in their practice, and enjoined on their children.

It is to this source, in the earliest and most impressible period of existence, that may be traced the strong religious tendencies and feelings he exhibited throughout life.

The scholastic education of Professor Horner commenced in Warrenton in his twelfth year, under the instruction of Mr. Charles O'Neill, a clergyman of the Episcopal Church.

The mental culture of Dr. Horner was not deep and thorough. This was a serious obstacle in the road to his advancement of truth, but was less felt in the particular department to which he devoted

himself with a kind of instinctive predilection, than it would have been in other branches. This defect did not suppress or defeat his aspirations and efforts for professional progress and preferment. He gained all that his highest ambition could hope for. The work he had to do, was done, and done well; but it would have been more artistically, gracefully, and easily accomplished had a higher culture and more extended knowledge furnished him with more complete instruments and larger appliances to work with. His reputation would not only have been solid and honorable, but brilliant.

This defect is common throughout the country, and besets the medical profession.

While at school, at Dumfries, young Horner was a frequent visitant at the mansion of the late Judge Washington, through two of his schoolmates, the Judge's nephews, and Mrs. Washington, who was a distant relative. This acquaintance was renewed in Philadelphia, after Dr. Horner was established here, and ripened into friendship. In his diary, he records a long and interesting conversation he had with the Judge, two days before his death, on a variety of public subjects.

Two days after the death of the Judge, his widowed lady died suddenly in her carriage, a few miles from the city, on her way home. She was accompanied by Mrs. and Mr. John Washington, who despatched a messenger for Dr. Horner. Death had been almost immediate. The body was brought to the city, and deposited in the Doctor's house, until the necessary arrangements were made for its removal to her residence in Virginia.

I mention this circumstance, and make the following extract from his journal, in which the event is recorded, as exemplifying the strong moral sentiments implanted in his nature:—

“In affording this accommodation to her remains, I was forcibly struck with the strangeness of the revolution occurring in individual circumstances.

“Twenty years before, when in the height of prosperity, she had been kind to me as a boy visiting at her house, and from whom she could reasonably expect no return; now, those blessings, which the Almighty, in His goodness, has conferred on me, of a good wife, and moderately easy circumstances, have enabled me to show

some gratitude in giving a quiet and respectful asylum to her remains under my roof, and in contributing to the comfort of those relatives who accompanied her."

After the completion of his classical education, Dr. Horner commenced his medical studies, under the direction of Dr. John Spence, a Scotch physician, educated in Edinburgh.

Dr. Horner continued the pupil of Dr. Spence until 1812. During this period, he attended two sessions of the University of Pennsylvania. In his studies, anatomy was the branch that more particularly interested him, and for which he manifested the most decided partiality.

In July, 1813, during the prosecution of his studies in this city, and before he had graduated, he received a commission as surgeon's mate in the hospital department of the United States Army. He accepted the appointment after some hesitation, having expected a surgeoncy, with the privilege of continuing, at a suitable time, his studies in the University. In September following, he was attached to the ninth military district, north of the Highlands, State of New York.

At this point commences the active life of Dr. Horner.

He now makes his first essay in the professional career he had adopted, which he is to pursue with all his energies, through the unknown future before him, in which he is to find obscurity and poverty, or to gain distinction, reputation, and fortune.

We have seen that, from his early education, his stock of general knowledge was not large; he was well-grounded in anatomy and surgery, the branches he preferred, with a superficial acquaintance only with the other departments of medicine; but he was conscious of his deficiencies, that he was only a student, and determined to lose no opportunity for improvement and the acquisition of knowledge. Nature had endowed him with a firm heart, that never failed him in difficulties; he was armed with a resolute determination not easily shaken, and a perseverance and application unwavering from fatigue.

His ardor in the pursuit of knowledge was not abated by the labor it cost; he knew the range of his powers, and concentrated his efforts within them; he had in a high degree order, method, and economy; there was a time and a place for everything; there

was no waste of time or means ; his probity, conscientiousness, and sense of truth were such, that none who knew him ever doubted his word, questioned his statements, or refused to accord to him the fullest confidence. In conduct, he was quiet, unpretending, never acting or talking, or making false displays for effect. No one possessed less of the art, as expressed by Sterne, "of lifting heavy weights by small wires." He had no gifts of the courtier ; no glozing speech or flattering words ever passed his tongue. Always polite, he never was obsequious. The impressions he made, and the friends he won, were from the convictions of his sincerity, integrity, and worth.

The moral and religious principles early inculcated and deeply rooted, were uncorrupted, though not yet strongly tried by temptations. They stood the test and trial of time unscathed and unimpaired.

His aspirations for the attainment of a high moral state, and of professional usefulness were ardent and steady. He appears to have formed for himself some ideal model, which it was the unceasing but unavailing aim to his existence to realize. He was never satisfied with what he had done ; he lamented over his deficiencies, confessed his shortcomings, acknowledged the superior claims and merits of others. His success in life he never attributed to himself, or regarded as the reward of his deserts, but with the most profound faith and reliance on an overruling Providence, he looked on them with a deep sense of gratitude and an unaffected humility, as the undeserved mercies of a heavenly Father. These sentiments and expressions are recorded from year to year, month to month, in a kind of journal, which is rather a transcript of his moral nature than a record of events.

In 1821, Dr. Horner made a visit to Europe.

In February, 1826, he recommenced his journal, after an interruption of six years. That period had been one of uninterrupted prosperity. He had married the only woman whom he had ever loved, and for whom he felt an unabated attachment. He was the father of two fine children ; he had gained an enviable position, was Adjunct Professor to Dr. Physick, whose entire confidence and friendship he enjoyed ; he had accumulated a sufficiency to secure his independence, and had succeeded in advancing, by his industry



and individual labor, the Anatomical Museum of the University from an insignificant collection to one of great interest and importance.

We are now acquainted with Dr. Horner. We have taken his dimensions, have estimated his capabilities, powers, and means of action, in waging the great contest of life. In following him through his course, it will be unnecessary to dwell on details or events.

Our young surgeon's mate, in pursuance of orders from Washington, joined the army on the Niagara frontier, September 25th, 1813. The army was about breaking up quarters, to rendezvous at Sackett's Harbor. Dr. Horner received orders, on the 25th, to take charge of seventy-three invalids, ordered to be forwarded to Greenbush from the hospital at Lewistown. They had all been wounded, many severely, at the capture of Yorktown and Fort George. The detachment was under the command of Lieutenant Whiting, who was directed, in consequence of the wretched state of the roads, to proceed as far as practicable by water. The detachment accompanied a portion of the army to Oswego, which was not reached until the 6th of October.

Immediately on delivering up his command at Greenbush, Dr. Horner received a furlough, and hastened on to Philadelphia, to prosecute his professional studies. He attended the courses of the University through the winter, and graduated in April, 1814.

The campaign of 1814 opened on the Niagara frontier, on the 3d July, when the army crossed to the Canada side. It is memorable for the number of sharp conflicts and sanguinary encounters that took place, and the brilliant success of the American arms.

Dr. Horner reached the frontier June 25th, and was attached to the hospital at Buffalo.

The attack on Fort Erie, on the 4th July, and battle of Chippewa, on the 15th, filled the wards of the hospital with wounded. Between sixty and seventy fell to the share of Dr. Horner. The battle of Bridgewater, on the 25th July, in which the British were defeated, swelled his list to one hundred and seventy-five, wounded and sick.

An attack was made by the enemy on Black Rock, on the 4th August, which endangered the safety of the hospital. All the sick



and wounded, whose condition would admit of it, were removed to the hospital at Williamsburg, a village eleven miles from Buffalo. Those who could not be removed, eighty or ninety in number, were left in the hospital, which was placed under the direction of Surgeon Horner.

Under these circumstances, Dr. Horner was subjected, at this time, to the exercise of a capricious tyranny and abuse of power, wholly unmerited. On the afternoon of the 7th August he was arrested by the commanding officer of the post for neglect of duty. The Doctor felt it as an act of extreme indignity and injustice. He had been incessantly engaged in a most laborious business, attended to with the utmost punctuality, and in such a manner as to meet the unequivocal approbation of those who immediately superintended him, a most striking proof of which was his being left in the direction of the hospital.

The next morning the arrest was removed in an unofficer-like and ungentlemanly manner, without explanation or apology. The supposed offence to this captious hero was, that Dr. Horner, having prescribed for him, and, having prepared the medicine, did not send it, understanding that a servant would come for it.

The assault on Fort Erie, the 15th August, by the British forces, in which they were repulsed with a heavy loss, threw an additional number of wounded into the hospital. On the next day, one hundred and forty-three of the wounded English soldiers were sent over, most of them dreadfully mangled and severely burnt by the blowing up of the bastion. "They exhibited," he remarks, "the most hideous aspect I ever beheld."

To the military surgeon, the blood-stained glories of war are but a succession of horrors.

This campaign was a fruitful field of surgical experience for Dr. Horner in his favorite pursuit. It was not neglected.

Notwithstanding his incessant occupation, with very inadequate assistance in dressing the wounded, and prescribing for the sick, he kept notes and records of his cases, many of them of great interest. The results of his observation and experience are published in a series of papers in "The Medical Examiner" for 1852.

The intelligence of the signing of the Treaty of Peace, at Ghent, was received at Washington, February 15th, 1815. Dr. Horner

found his occupation gone. He was stationed at Norfolk, Virginia, as surgeon's mate to a handful of troops. At this stage he surveyed the prospect before him. Promotion must be tardy; a life, for the most part idle and listless, was before him; it gave no opportunity for professional experience; there was nothing to animate his zeal, to satisfy the earnestness of his character, to gratify his instinctive desires of knowledge in anatomy and surgery, or to fulfil his aspirations for distinction. His decision was prompt. On the 13th of March he sent in his resignation; on the 23d, he received information of its acceptance; the next day he left Norfolk for his paternal residence.

As this was a critical epoch of life, and the step he had now took would influence his future existence, he deliberated long before his final resolution was taken. There is amongst his papers one on this subject, which is very characteristic of his mind and habits. It is a table drawn up to aid the decision that was then agitating him. It is dated July, 1815. Four schemes presented themselves to his mind, viz., to remain at Warrenton, to remove to Philadelphia, to enter the navy, or engage in the East India service. Under each of these heads were arranged, in as many columns and in numerical order, the advantages and disadvantages of each, the promises held forth, and the attendant risks.

The India surgeoncy was thought of as a temporary measure, but an application to a prominent merchant of that day proved unsuccessful. Philadelphia was ultimately preferred, from its superior attractions and opportunities of cultivating anatomy and surgery, its enlarged field for enterprise and acquiring distinction, though the risk of failure and loss was a serious drawback.

His preparations were made; he realized the legacy of his grandmother, collected what was due him, and, on the 3d of December, bade adieu to the home of his birth. In recording this event, he expresses himself in these terms: "The Rubicon is passed; I have forsaken my relations, my friends, and my practice. I am now on my way to Philadelphia, where I intend to seek my fortune. I have put all at hazard. O, thou Eternal Father, the giver of all good gifts, may thy blessing attend me."

The winter was passed in close attendance on the lectures of the University, in professional reading, and in the prosecution of prac-

tical anatomy. At its close, he regarded "his prospects as far from being flattering; but patience and perseverance might insure ultimate success; at all events, he would put his shoulder to the wheel."

But the morning dawn of his professional eminence and success was then beginning to break, though unperceived by him.

His enthusiasm for anatomy, his earnest application to dissection, his quiet demeanor, his steadiness of character, the neatness and excellence of his preparations, had attracted the notice of Professor Wistar, and gained his friendship, confidence, and esteem.

In March, he offered to Dr. Horner to appoint him his dissector, with a salary of five hundred dollars per annum.

The offer was immediately accepted, though the emolument was small.

This opening, trifling as it appears, "led on to fortune." It placed him on the path to which he was predestined by his innate taste and inclinations. His progress was uninterrupted. He moved forward as on a royal road; no impediment occurred to retard, or obstacle to arrest his advance, until he had gained all that fortune, ever propitious to him, could bestow.

An occurrence, in this stage of his life, gives an indication of his principles. In the fall he was oppressed with great despondency regarding his future welfare, and assailed by anxious and corroding cares, picturing to his mind the dangers of abject poverty and want. At this time, an offer was made to him of a surgeon's place on board an East Indiaman.

Several medical gentlemen, from the trading privileges allowed them, had found the situation profitable; and it had been a favorite plan with Dr. Horner. The proposal was immediately declined in consequence of his engagement with Dr. Wistar.

He remarks, in noting down this occurrence, "It is said that the fortune of every man depends on some unexpected circumstance; I may have rejected that on which my fortune turned; my refusal arose from my sense of obligation and honorable intentions to Dr. Wistar. There is a maxim that 'honesty is the best policy.' I now put it to the test." A note is appended to this passage, dated January, 1832, to this effect: "See note of Trustees of the Uni-

versity of Pennsylvania, appointing me Professor of Anatomy, November, 1831."

This connection formed with Dr. Wistar, ripened into personal friendship and warm regard. In the summer of 1817, Dr. Wistar being compelled to visit the interior of the State in reference to property he owned, selected Dr. Horner as his companion.

The demonstrations of the anatomical course were fuller and more complete than they had been previously; and the anatomical museum was rapidly increased by numerous specimens and preparations, particularly of fine injections, as well as important pathological illustrations. He worked most assiduously, for it was a work of love.

In speaking of the year 1817, he writes, "It opened on me with prospects too appalling for the mind of man to bear." He had, about that period, nearly determined on abandoning the world, and of devoting himself wholly to a religious life, and in preparation for eternity. He continues, "It closed upon me with circumstances I had not dared to anticipate. Fortune had pushed me even farther than I could have demanded."

The death of Dr. Wistar, which occurred unexpectedly on the 22d of January, 1818, appeared to cast a blight on the budding fortunes of young Horner. The event was poignantly felt by him. "This afflicting dispensation," he records, "has harrowed up my mind beyond manifestation of grief; my friend, my patron, my example in life; the good, the illustrious Wistar, is no more. My hopes are again destroyed."

The vacant chair of anatomy in the University, was filled by the election of Dr. John Syng Dorsey, the nephew of Dr. Physick, under whose auspices he had been carefully educated, and had already acquired a distinguished medical and surgical reputation. High expectations had been formed of this appointment.

He appointed Dr. Horner as his demonstrator, and placed the dissecting class and all its emoluments, in his hands.

How vain and unstable are all human calculations. These bright anticipations were dashed to the ground. Dr. Dorsey opened the anatomical course of 1818, with one of the most brilliant introductions, as it was generally pronounced, that had ever been delivered in the University. It excited the highest admira-



tion. That night he was taken ill with a disease that assumed, in a few days, a fatal character, and in a week or ten days consigned him to a most untimely grave.

A cloud, it appeared to Dr. Horner, again gathered over and shadowed his prospects. The event proved the reverse.

Dr. Physick, in consideration of his nephew's family, though in a very desponding state of mind from the loss of one to whom he was much attached, who possessed his entire confidence, and whom he looked to as the prop of his declining age, and though in ill health, undertook to carry on the anatomical course, as well as his own lectures on Surgery.

He immediately renewed with Dr. Horner the engagement that had been made by Dr. Dorsey. The course was completed in a manner highly satisfactory to Dr. Physick and the class. The assiduity and zeal of Dr. Horner, and the excellence of his demonstrations, by lightening the labor of the course and facilitating its progress, contributed in no small degree to this result.

From some views not easily understood, Dr. Physick resigned, in the succeeding summer, the Professorship of Surgery, to which he had given so much illustration by his high reputation, his enlarged experience, and his sound surgical principles, and accepted the Chair of Anatomy.

Dr. Physick was so much satisfied with Dr. Horner's services the preceding winter, that he at once renewed the connection with him on the most liberal terms.

The position Dr. Horner had now gained, and in which he was so firmly intrenched, at once secured and commanded his success in his future fortunes. He possessed the entire confidence, and had won the steadfast friendship of Dr. Physick, the foremost in the ranks of the profession, and whose opinion was of great weight in society. His income was considerably above his wants, and a commencing accumulation gave a confidence in a future store. The harassing fears of failure and destitution, which conjured up the dark despondency to which he was so often a prey, were for the time dispelled. So entirely had his mind, feelings, and affections been engrossed in the hard struggle he had bravely maintained against discouraging odds, that no other consideration could engage his attention, or make a permanent impression. He had now the



assurance of security and independence ; he could indulge in other thoughts, and look into other relations of life.

It is remarkable and characteristic, that up to this period he had been unconscious of that profound sentiment, of that ideality of the moral faculties, the source of our noblest conceptions of moral duties, and of our purest enjoyment, the origin of man's highest aspirations on this earth, and only awakened into existence by the inspiration of woman. He had never loved ; nay, he was sceptical of the existence of such a passion, certainly as to himself, and looked upon all that had been said in eloquent prose or sung in harmonious verse on the subject, as the illusions of an ardent nature, or the exaggerated fictions of a poetic imagination.

But his hour had arrived, as it comes to all. He felt and acknowledged the reality of the sentiment he had denied ; and possessed by the passion he had discredited, roused from its dormant state, he was thrown into new trains of thought, and impelled into a new condition of being. In this relation of life he was favored as in so many others. His hopes were not thwarted. He was affianced, and in October, 1820, was married to Elizabeth Welsh, the third daughter of Mr. John Welsh, a prominent merchant of this city.

In the month succeeding his marriage, at the request of Dr. Physick, Dr. Horner was associated with him as Adjunct Professor of Anatomy. From this time there is but little more to record in the life of Dr. Horner than the occurrences of a successful professional life, and a strict attention to his various duties.

In 1823, he was appointed one of the Surgeons to the Philadelphia Almshouse Hospital, which office he held for twenty-five years.

Dr. Physick, broken down by increasing infirmities, finding the task of lecturing beyond his powers, resigned his chair in 1831.

Dr. Horner, in November of that year, was unanimously elected in his place.

On the approach of the cholera invasion in 1832, the City Councils appointed a Sanitary Board composed of the principal physicians of the city. Dr. Horner was one of those selected ; and was subsequently placed in charge of one of the temporary district hospitals, established during the prevalence of the epidemic.

He devoted himself to investigate the anatomical lesions that

occur in the intestinal tube in cholera. For this object he adopted an entirely new method of observation. He first made a minute injection of the mucous membrane, and then examined it under water with large magnifying lenses, and afterwards on the object-glass of the microscope.

In this manner, he demonstrated that the epithelial structure of the small intestines is destroyed and desquamated.

Boehm, of Berlin, subsequently ascertained the same fact, and it has been confirmed by numerous observations since then. I claim, then, for Dr. Horner, the credit of having first devised the method of obtaining an exact knowledge of the pathological condition of the mucous membrane and epithelial tissues; that is, by previously injecting them, examining them under water with magnifying glasses and the microscope; and further, of being the first who demonstrated, conclusively, that entire desquamation of the epithelium of the small intestines is a cardinal and especial anatomical lesion in cholera.

This lesion, as a constant symptom or anatomical alteration, is met with in no other disease, and is far more intimately connected with the pathology of cholera than the lesion of Peyer's glands, first announced by Louis as existing in typhoid fever, and for which he has received so much credit, is with the pathology of that affection.

In June, 1841, Dr. Horner, for the first time, had an attack of dyspnœa, while residing in the country. In each succeeding year, these attacks were renewed with increased severity and frequency. They were most commonly brought on by indigestion, or over-exertion, or excitement. In 1844, I saw him in one of his attacks. The lungs were violently congested. I succeeded in obtaining a slight auscultatory examination, to which he was averse, sufficient to ascertain the existence of hypertrophy of the heart, apparently without lesion of the valves. He was relieved by bleeding and by a copious expectoration of bloody serum.

In 1847, his constitution appeared to be yielding to the affection. The attacks were frequent, either severe or slight; his nights for a time nearly sleepless, and dropsical effusions had commenced.

He was, in this state, attending daily to practice, sometimes on foot, and ascending the staircases of hotels and private residences, regardless of his sufferings. It was with difficulty he could be

persuaded to retire to the country, to find relief in inaction and repose. He returned in the fall, so much recruited from this regimen, that he carried on the winter course without interruption, though the carotids could be seen from every bench of the anatomical amphitheatre violently throbbing, and it was a daily expectation that he might drop at the demonstration-table.

In the spring of 1848, Dr. Horner, accompanied by his friend, Dr. Leidy, made the tour of Europe. He rallied on the voyage, and soon after landing engaged, with the ardor of a young medical tourist, in professional pursuits. In England, Germany, and France, he visited hospitals and anatomical museums, and sought out eminent anatomists and surgeons. He was in Vienna while the revolutionary movements were in progress. He was also in Paris during the fierce conflicts of July, when he witnessed in the hospitals, filled with the wounded, every variety of gunshot wound, and the modes of treatment pursued. In passing from one hospital to another, our medical travellers found themselves suddenly between two parties of combatants, when they had to take refuge in a *porte cochère*, to avoid the deadly missiles.

From this excursion, Dr. Horner returned much benefited, and was enabled to attend to his routine of duties without intermission, until the winter of 1852-53.

During 1852, his attacks and sufferings increased, and sad inroads were made on his constitution and health. At the opening of the course, in October, his situation appeared very precarious, and gave serious apprehensions to his friends. He was resolute in his determination to lecture; he could not bring his mind to abandon the field in which, for twenty-one years, he had successfully labored. But it was early apparent that his career was drawing to a close, and the impossibility of his finishing the course manifested.

Early in November, immediately on my return from Europe, where I had been detained, he requested my opinion of his state, and the course he should pursue. He was frankly told that lecturing, or practising, in his then state, was impossible—must not be thought of; that rest and tranquillity were indispensable. "Then," said he, "I must leave the city; I cannot remain and follow your advice." He left, the next day, on a visit to his friends at the South, returned in three weeks, temporarily rallied, and

resumed his lectures, which he continued until January 27th. This last lecture was accomplished with difficulty. His limbs were distended with dropsical swellings; for a week he had been lecturing while bandaged to the waist; his respiration, labored and short, rendered speech difficult; the heaving heart and throbbing carotids seemed threatening every moment an apoplectic hemorrhage, a sudden congestion, or fatal effusion on the lungs. At the end of the lecture he deliberately walked to his home, at least a quarter of a mile, as though he were in perfect health. From this time he felt the conviction that his office in life was closed, and he was soon to be removed from those duties which he had fulfilled with earnestness and integrity. He resigned himself calmly to his fate, and awaited its coming without a murmur or with reluctance. There was, with him, no parade of preparation for a future state, for it had been the ruling thought and aim of his whole life. He seldom talked of his death; but, when it was alluded to, it was treated and spoken of as any other occurrence of our daily life. A circumstance I am tempted to mention, shows his coolness and unconcern on this subject. He was lying on a couch, Dr. Henry Smith and myself sitting on each side. Dr. Horner was suffering some pain, a new symptom that had just commenced. He demonstrated, with his finger, the different regions of the trunk, enumerating the organs they contained, and the state of each, and indicated the exact seat where he then suffered the most. This was done with the interest and earnest manner of a demonstration to his class. I was so struck with it as to call the attention of Dr. Smith to this display of the "ruling passion strong in death." "Look! here is the anatomist dissecting his body; making a *post-mortem* before he is dead." The remark so amused Dr. Horner that he laughed heartily, in which we joined him. At the end he said: "Well, I have not had so good a laugh for a long time." This occurred on the third day before his death.

The imperative sense of duty, so conspicuous a trait in Dr. Horner, was manifested in the last moments of his life. Towards the close of February, finding the most urgent symptoms of his case mitigated, and his life prolonged beyond his expectations, he insisted on relieving the Faculty of the University of a portion of the labors his incapacitated state might throw on them. He com-



menced the anatomical examination of the candidates for graduation, aided by his son-in-law, Dr. Henry H. Smith, and continued this duty until within two days of his death.

It is somewhat remarkable that the death of Dr. Horner was not the immediate result of the chronic affection under which his constitution had broken down. He had complained, about the 10th of March, of pain in the abdomen, on the left side. The night of the 12th it suddenly assumed an intensity that led to the suspicion of peritonitis from a perforation. He sank exhausted, by unceasing and unmitigable suffering, the evening of the next day, March 13th, 1853, surrounded by his sorrowing family and relatives.

Examination, after death, revealed the existence of entero-peritonitis, with mortification of the small intestines. This new condition was the direct cause of death, and had suddenly supervened on the original disease.

Several years before his death he became a convert to the Catholic religion, and was one of the most zealous members of that Church.

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## ARTHUR HOWELL.

ARTHUR HOWELL, a well-known citizen of Philadelphia, was by trade a tanner and currier, and an eminent and worthy preacher of the Society of Friends or Quakers. He died, January 26th, 1816, in the sixty-eighth year of his age.

He was a plain but pious man, and, as a preacher of the Gospel, was a sincere and exemplary member of the Society to which he belonged. When sitting in the preaching gallery, as beheld through the "mist of years," he always sat shrouded beneath his hat drawn down over his face, and the upper part of his outside coat elevated to meet it, like unto a prophet "in his mantle wrapt," and isolated in thought from all sublunary things.

As a preacher, or "Public Friend," as his brethren called their ministers, Arthur Howell was somewhat eminent and useful, as a good man and sincere Christian. He was of the strictest integrity,



and he carried his notions of fair dealing to an extent that would be deemed insane in these days of commercial virtue. It is narrated of Friend Howell, that upon one occasion he purchased a cargo of tanners' oil, on a rising market, and that after selling it at a higher rate than he anticipated, he repaired to the person from whom he bought, and paid him an additional dollar upon each barrel of oil!

His dying exclamation was, "There is nothing in the way."

The following verses were published soon after his death, in "Poulson's American Daily Advertiser":—

ARTHUR HOWELL.

Shall the proud warrior, who, amid the storm,  
Drunken with blood, his furious way pursues,  
Where carnage does fair Nature's face deform,  
Claim all the homage of the suppliant Muse?

And shall not he, in duty's path who trod,  
Bowing submissive to the will of Heaven,  
Who murmured not at the chastising rod,  
But grateful took whatever good was given?

Shall not his memory (like the fragrant flower,  
Though dead and withered, still perfumes the air),  
Live in our hearts until the parting hour,  
When comes the signal, For the grave prepare?

Yes! in each heart, where virtue holds her throne,  
Memory, indulgent to the mind's review,  
Will bring the noble actions of thine own,  
And counsel others—"The same path pursue."

And oh! may they, when comes the final hour,  
When they no longer on the earth may stay,  
Feel the consoling influence of that Power,  
That whispered thee, "There's nothing in the way!"

Mrs. Child, in her Life of Isaac T. Hopper, says, "Arthur Howell was remarkable for spiritual-mindedness and the gift of prophecy."

## FERDINAND WAKEMAN HUBBELL.

(From "The Presbyterian," of Saturday, August 7th, 1852.)

THE LATE MR. HUBBELL.—We have inserted, this week, the obituary of F. W. Hubbell, Esq. The memory of this gentleman should be dear to every Presbyterian, when we remember his successful efforts in the celebrated case of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church. The clear and powerful argument in which he sustained its rights; the succinct and lucid manner in which he stated the points in controversy; the clear and intelligible enunciation of the points of doctrine; the cogent reasoning by which he connected them with the rights of property, and the finally triumphant results of the labors of himself and colleagues, will never be forgotten. We cannot refuse this mournful tribute to the powerful and cultivated intellect that has passed away. Mr. Hubbell was a Presbyterian from conviction. He derived his lineage from the Puritans of New England. His great-grandfather, Jonathan Law, was Governor of Connecticut under the colonial system; and his son, Chief Justice Law, was a member of the Revolutionary Congress. Mr. Hubbell's uncles, on either side, were among the bravest defenders of their country, both by sea and land. And he nobly sustained, in his life and character, the reputation of the venerable men from whom he had descended. In conclusion, we entirely concur with the resolutions adopted by his professional brethren, in saying that, "by the death of Ferdinand W. Hubbell, Esq., we have lost one of the greatest ornaments of the Bar, one of the most learned and distinguished jurists of our country, and an honorable and useful fellow-citizen."

Ferdinand Wakeman Hubbell, whose loss the Bar of Philadelphia has had so recently to deplore, was born in the city of New York, on the 4th day of May, 1801. He was the second son of Walter Hubbell, Esq., of that place, and a grandson of the Hon. Richard Law, formerly Chief Justice of Connecticut. Mr. Hubbell's father, at the time of his birth, was extensively engaged in

commercial pursuits, but died when his son was only in the third year of his age. He was blessed, however, with a fond and intelligent mother, who in a great measure supplied this misfortune, and who spared no pains or expense to give her children all the advantages that the best education can confer, and who lived to an advanced age to see her efforts successful in the prosperity of her son. Mr. Hubbell completed his classical studies at Princeton and Union Colleges. He read law with the late Charles Chauncey, Esq., of Philadelphia, and while he always felt a filial regard for that gentleman, he ever retained his confidence and esteem. From the time of his admission to the Bar, we can only contemplate Mr. Hubbell's character as a lawyer; for in that his whole future existence was absorbed. He was a lawyer pure and entire. Everything about him gave way to his profession; to that he dedicated his days and nights. When a student, he was in the habit of studying regularly fifteen hours a day; and while he was a practitioner, the morning has frequently surprised him in the preparation of his cases. His scrupulous attention would not delegate to another what he might do himself; and although nature would frequently revolt at this overtasking, still the unyielding energy of his will bent her to his purpose. This severity of labor gradually undermined a naturally sound and excellent constitution, on which he relied too confidently, but which at length gave way, and sent him to his grave in the maturity of his manhood. With such application his learning was necessarily vast and extensive, and his iron memory held it always at command. Founded on such a basis, his legal judgment was seldom at fault, led with security, and decided with confidence. The leading characteristic of his mind, perhaps, was a microscopic power of analysis that traced every matter to its most attenuated filament; while a metaphysical cast of thought, with a subtlety peculiar to itself, detected the most delicate distinctions, which he afterwards developed with almost mathematical precision and great force of language. These intellectual traits gave him that commanding power that he always held as a counsellor and advocate. He had no superior in the United States as a special pleader, a branch of the profession that he peculiarly delighted in, because it exercised that logical accuracy of thinking that so eminently distinguished him; he has left numerous pleas

upon the records of our courts which will serve as models to all future times. His power of generalization easily determined the leading principle from a multitude of precedents, and for the same reason and with the same facility, he referred every individual case, however modified by circumstances, to the rule that controlled it. In his arguments to the Bench, there was an earnest fearlessness that did not hesitate for a moment about the correctness of its position, and seemed always confident of the conquest it would, and often did, wring from reluctant judges, because, whenever he undertook to urge a point, he took care, by the severest scrutiny and study, to ascertain he was right, and then demanded from the Bench what its justice was bound to administer.

As an advocate to the jury, he was warm and impressive. Consummately skilful in urging upon them the force of the evidence, sternly argumentative, without any of the flourishes of rhetoric, his manly tone of eloquence generally succeeded in convincing their understandings by the perspicuity of his statements and the clearness of his elucidations. As his thought was logical, his language was necessarily concise and comprehensive; there was no useless waste of phraseology, and his meaning was conveyed distinct and unmistakable. He has helped to build, to elaborate, and, if we may be allowed the expression, to clarify the jurisprudence of this great Commonwealth, for the last thirty years. The result of his labors will be found where those of a lawyer only are found—in the reports of the State. But the thought, the acumen, the mental power that led to that result, can only be estimated by those few men who have stood by his side and seen his noble efforts. If we add to all this, his zeal, his integrity, and his even fastidious fidelity to his cause and his client, we hope we have conveyed some idea of how near he came to the perfection of his profession. Such was the character of Ferdinand W. Hubbell as a lawyer. As a general scholar, his classical attainments often afforded him, when he could snatch a moment of leisure, that delight which the learned only can feel in the lore of antiquity. He delighted in the Odes of Horace, most of which he knew by heart, in the original tongue; and the terseness of Tacitus always pleased his taste, because, perhaps, it resembled his own habits of condensed expression. But, alas! few hours were granted him for

these relaxations, amidst the pressure of business. That press was too severe upon him; too many flew to him for aid, for counsel, for advice, for assistance; his energies could not supply all, could not last forever; he perished, and perished like the immortal Dunning, at the early age of fifty-two, when we have still a right to look forward to many years. We have hitherto spoken of his intellect; yet, amidst all his cares, he never forgot the duties due his Creator; and in the various relations of domestic life, as a son, a husband, father, and brother, he exhibited the best traits of a man and a Christian. He had a heart kind, benevolent, and expansive with charity to all men—open to feel, and ready to dispense whatever aid might soothe and solace the unfortunate. Those who knew him best, know how often his generous hand was opened to the distresses and wants of his fellow-beings. They were not sounded in the streets, or heard by men, but they are recorded in the remembrance of his God and Saviour. It does honor to the deceased, and honor to his brethren of the Bar, to find that, in a profession that excites so much contention and emulation, the living still had the nobleness to render that homage to the dead that his hard-won merits deserved. The feeling was spontaneous, but just; all seemed to own the loss of a friend; all paid that tribute of affection to the amiable traits of a heart that had ceased to beat forever! He is gone! but he has bequeathed to his profession the example of a well-spent life, of untiring industry, of zealous fidelity and devotion, of honorable rectitude, and, above all, a career of unspotted integrity. Such a memory will be long and fondly cherished. The earth has lost his spirit, while the grave has added to its mouldering trophies the remains of an illustrious man.

C.

Hac Tabula  
 Commemoratur,  
 Ferdinandus Wakeman Hubbell.  
 Jurisprudentiæ  
 Vir admodum peritus,  
 Qui in Forensibus summam Palmam  
 Sustulit.  
 Ingenio insignis, eloquentia imbutus;  
 Literis humanioribus ornatus;  
 In Philosophia Doctus;



Viscit,  
 Omni virtute probatus ;  
 Morum amenitate delectus,  
 Obiit,  
 Medio in spatio Ætatis  
 Ereptus ; profunde defletus.  
 In Maii Non. iv, MDCCCI natus ;  
 Julii Idibus MDCCCLIV  
 E vita excessit.

H. H.

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## WILLIAM HUDSON.

WILLIAM HUDSON, the original founder of this family in Philadelphia, came hither from "Reedness," on "Foggerbury Manor," Yorkshire, England, about the time that William Penn came over to this country ; and, it is a tradition in the family, that he accompanied the founder hither in 1682. It is certain that he was among the first who migrated to the new city from England. Mr. Hudson was never an Episcopal clergyman, as has been stated. He was a strict Quaker, and enjoyed the friendship and confidence of the proprietor. He held several offices of trust in the new city, having, for a number of years, been Alderman, Common Councilman, and Mayor, by turns. Mr. Hudson was a tanner ; and, at a time when property was cheaper in Philadelphia than it is at present, he purchased a strip of land fifty feet in width upon Chestnut Street, extending from Chestnut Street to the "Swamp," as the low ground on the verge of Dock Creek used to be called. In this "Swamp" was located the tanyard of the owner of the ground ; and, at this end of the property, the family kept the boats in which they were accustomed to drop down Dock Creek to the Delaware on fishing excursions, or when they desired to visit their extensive plantations in the "Neck." At the Chestnut Street end of the lot the family mansion was built. It was a fine, old-fashioned, brick structure, which stood back from Chestnut Street, a short distance below Third. In the courtyard, on Chestnut Street, there were stately buttonwood-trees growing. In the year 1694, Mr. Hudson pur-

chased, for five hundred pounds, Pennsylvania currency, the house and lot on the southeast corner of Third and Chestnut Streets. This structure was built and owned by Solomon Boone; and Anthony Morris, the brother-in-law of Mr. Hudson, as executor of the estate of Mr. Boone, sold the property to Mr. Hudson. This is the identical structure which was so long occupied by the Musgraves, and in which John H. Baker kept his intelligence-office and night-school for many years. Carter's Alley was not opened through into Third Street until after the great fire in Dock Street, in 1806, when the house which stood at the western end of the court was demolished, and the present thoroughfare was formed.

Mr. Hudson accumulated an immense deal of property in Philadelphia. He was the original owner of the old tanyard (afterwards Ashburner's) which was formerly located on Third Street, below the Girard Bank. This property extended from the southern line of the bank property to Harmony Court, and back to Hudson's Alley, a passage-way into Chestnut Street, which Mr. Hudson caused to be opened for the use of his property, and which has ever since borne his name. Perhaps the snuggest piece of property owned by the old gentleman was "Hudson's Garden," extending from Market Street to Arch, and from Fifth Street to Sixth. He also owned a neat little strip of land opposite this plot, which extended from the south line of Christ Church graveyard, at Fifth and Arch Streets, to Market Street, and having a depth of one hundred and thirteen feet from Fifth Street.

In the year 1742, Mr. Hudson was gathered to his fathers, and his large estate was divided between his children and his grandchildren. The owner of the land, in his will, laid out the square into lots, planned and named North and South Streets (the latter has since been called Commerce Street), and marked upon each lot the name of the lucky individual who was to inherit it. We copy from the document the following names of the heirs to this portion of the estate: Eliza Hudson, Mary Burr, Hannah Burr, William Medcalf, Jane Hudson, Matthew Medcalf, Susannah Hudson, Rachel Hudson, Rachel Owen, Susannah Medcalf, Rachel Medcalf, Mary Hudson (daughter of Samuel), William Hudson, Jr., Rachel Emlen, Hudson Emlen, Sarah Emlen, Mary Hudson (daughter of William, Jr.), Mary Howell, Hannah and Rachel Owens, William

Hudson, Jr., Hannah Owens, Rebecca Hudson, Deborah Hudson, Susannah Burr, Sarah Langdale, Susannah Medcalf, Hannah Moode, Gustavus Hasselins, and Abraham Kintsing, all of whom were children or grandchildren of William Hudson. The manor property in England was given to Sarah Emlen; and the property at the southeast corner of Third and Chestnut Streets was bequeathed to Samuel Hudson, a son of the testator, and the ground-rent accruing from this ground is still enjoyed by his descendants. The land upon which the Vandyke building now stands was purchased on ground rent, a few years since, from the descendants of Mr. Hudson, for the sum of eighteen hundred dollars a year, representing a principal of thirty thousand dollars. On the death of Samuel Hudson, he left the old homestead, at Third and Chestnut Streets, to his daughter Rachel, who, not having before her eyes the fear of a sudden journey over the wall of the Meeting, married Captain Jory, an officer in the British Army. After the death of Captain Jory, his widow married a famous Quaker preacher, named John Hunt. This lady, in her matrimonial experience, blended the epaulettes and the broad-brimmed beaver rather oddly.

There are quite a number of well-known families in Philadelphia who can trace their descent from Mr. William Hudson; while others, which were equally as well known, and which descended from him, are now extinct. Among the descendants of Mr. Hudson are the Whartons, Ridgways, Emlens, Howells, Medcalfs, Fishers, Moodes, Burrs, Nancarrowes, Langdales, Carmans, Lewises, Sykeses, and Rawles. The old clock in the Philadelphia Library, which is reported to have belonged to Oliver Cromwell, was presented to the Library by the descendants of Mr. Samuel Hudson. The tradition in the family is, that the ancient timepiece was purchased by William Hudson at a sale of the effects of Richard Cromwell, the son of the Protector, and that it was brought to this country by Mr. Hudson.

There is a diary of Eliza Hudson, a daughter of William's, who was a famous Quaker preacher in her time. The diary commences in 1743, and extends through several years. It is principally filled with narratives of her religious feelings and experiences, and it is written in the quaint style of the early part of the last century. The writer speaks frequently of visits paid to Isaac Norris's seat,

at Fairhill (now in the Nineteenth Ward). She went to England and Ireland on religious business, and finally married a widower, named Morris, and settled in this city. Her first-born was named William Hudson Morris.

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## JOSHUA HUMPHREYS.

IN the "Sunday Dispatch" of the 10th October, 1858, this inquiry was made by H. H. H.: "Were any of the following gentlemen men of note, viz., David Ross, Thomas Russell, Aaron Dexter, Joshua Humphreys? They were all correspondents of Commodore Barry. I have their autographs, and it is for that purpose I wish to know if they are of any repute?" The reply in reference to one of the names was: "Joshua Humphreys, first Naval Constructor of the United States, built many of the ships of war belonging to the government." This was correct as far as it went, but the connection of Mr. Humphreys with the navy was more extended and important than that you have stated, and in one sense he may with propriety be called the Father of the American Navy.

When, in 1792 and '93, it became apparent that a naval establishment must be created, the rate, size, and armament of the ships that should compose it, were much discussed. The views entertained by Mr. Humphreys were communicated to the Hon. Robert Morris, in a letter dated January 6th, 1793, and subsequently in conversation and by letter to General Knox, then Secretary of War, there being no navy, and, of course, no Secretary of the Navy.

The leading ideas of Mr. Humphreys were that, as our navy must be, for a considerable time, inferior in the number of its vessels to the navies of Europe, to compensate for this deficiency in number, our ships should be formidable from their character, and larger in size and armament, and stronger in construction than those of Europe of the same class. The first ships built, he thought, should be frigates, the least of which should carry twenty-eight thirty-two-pounders, or thirty twenty-four-pounders on the gun-



deck. Such ships in blowing weather would be an overmatch for ships-of-the-line, (whose lower ports must then be closed), and in light winds could evade coming to action by outsailing them. (In those days the armaments of ships-of-the-line, even, were not so heavy as those proposed for the American frigates.) These frigates should have scantlings equal to seventy-fours, should be built of the best materials that could be procured, and the timber framed and bolted together. When, in the course of time, other classes of ships were to be built, the same principles should be extended to them. In this manner the vessels of the American navy would take the lead of all others.

The copy of the letter to General Knox has been mislaid; that to Mr. Morris is not so full as, nor does it contain the details of, the letter to the Secretary of War, but exhibits merely the general principles proposed for the construction of the navy. It is as follows:—

“PHILADELPHIA, 6th Jan., 1793.

“TO THE HON. ROBERT MORRIS.

“Sir: From present appearances, I believe it is time this country was possessed of a navy; but as that is yet to be raised, I have ventured a few ideas on the subject.

“Ships composing the European navies are generally distinguished by their rates; but as the situation of our coast and depth of water in our harbors are different in some degree from those of Europe, and as our navy must be for a considerable time inferior in the number of its vessels to theirs, we are to consider what size ships will be most formidable, and be an overmatch for those of an enemy,—such frigates as in blowing weather would be an overmatch for double-decked ships, or in light winds may evade coming to action by outsailing them. Ships built on these principles will render those of an enemy in a degree useless, or will require them to have a superiority in number before they attack our ships.

“Frigates, I suppose, will be their first object, and I think none of them ought to be built less than one hundred and fifty feet keel, to carry twenty-eight thirty-two pounders, or thirty twenty-four pounders, on the gun-deck, and twelve-pounders on the quarter-deck. These ships should have scantlings equal to seventy-fours. As such ships will cost a large sum of money, they should



be built of the best materials which can be procured, and the timbers framed and bolted together.

“If we build our ships of the same size as the European, they having so great a number of them, we shall always be behind them. I would build them of a larger size than theirs, and take the lead of them, which is the only safe method of commencing a navy.

“I am, very respectfully, yours,

“JOSHUA HUMPHREYS.”

The Act of Congress of the 27th March, 1794, “to provide a naval armament for the United States,” gave discretionary power to the President, within certain limits, regarding the size of the ships to be built. Six were authorized: four to be forty-four gun ships, two thirty-six gun ships; or the President might substitute six thirty-two gun ships. In directing the construction of the ships authorized by this Act, the views of Mr. Humphreys were adopted by General Washington and General Knox.

On the 12th of April, 1794, General Knox requested Mr. Humphreys to prepare drafts and models for such frigates as he had proposed to the War Department, in his letter of that date, and also models for the frames; and in July following, he was instructed to have the moulds for those to be built at Norfolk (the Chesapeake), Baltimore (the Constellation), New York (the President), Boston (the Constitution), and Portsmouth (the Congress), prepared with all possible despatch and sent to those places; Mr. Humphreys superintending in person the construction of the frigate United States, at Philadelphia.

In reporting progress in December following, Mr. Humphreys says: “From the construction of those ships (the six frigates), it is expected the commanders of them will have it in their power to engage, or not, any ship, as they may think proper; and no ship, under sixty-four, now afloat, but what must submit to them.”

In the same month the Secretary of War, in obedience to the orders of the President, submitted to the House of Representatives a report respecting the frigates authorized by the Act. He says,

“That the passing of the said Act created an anxious solicitude that this second commencement of a navy for the United States should be worthy of their national character; that the vessels should

combine such qualities of strength, durability, swiftness of sailing, and force, as to render them equal, if not superior, to any frigates belonging to any European powers. Researches, therefore, have been made for the best principles of construction, and such proportions adopted as have appeared best, upon the most mature advice and deliberation.

“The largest ships, of forty-four guns, will be constructed upon a scale to contain thirty cannons of the calibre of twenty-four pounds upon the gun-deck. The others, of thirty-six, twenty-eight cannons, of the same calibre, upon the gun-deck. The remaining force will be made up of twelve-pounders and brass howitzers.

“The frigates will be built of live oak and red cedar, in all parts where they can be used to advantage.”

In 1796, a Committee was appointed in the House of Representatives to inquire into the actual state of the naval equipment, &c. &c., and reported that, “after the law (to provide a naval armament) passed, the President of the United States, under whose direction they were to be built, deemed it most advisable to extend the size of the frigates, and determined that they should be near three hundred tons larger, each, than the Committee who had reported on the naval armament had estimated; that instead of making use of common timber for building the frigates, he caused the best live oak and red cedar to be got in Georgia,” &c.

In 1798, the Secretary of War, in furnishing information to a committee, appointed by the House of Representatives, to inquire into the expenditure of the money appropriated for the naval armament, and also into the causes of the delay in completing the same, says, in respect to the size of the ships:—

“It appears that the first estimate rendered to Congress was for frigates of the common size and dimensions, rated at thirty-six and forty-four guns; and that the first appropriations for the armament were founded upon this estimate. It appears, also, that, when their size and dimensions came to be more maturely considered, due reference being had to the ships they might have to contend with, it was deemed proper so to alter their dimensions, without changing their rates, as to extend their sphere of utility as much as possible. It was expected, from the alteration, that they would possess, in an

eminent degree, the advantage of sailing; that, separately, they would be superior to any single European frigate of the usual dimensions; that, if assailed by numbers, they would be always able to lead ahead; that they could never be obliged to go into action, but on their own terms, except in a calm; and that, in heavy weather, they would be capable of engaging double-deck ships. These are the principal advantages contemplated from the change made in their dimensions. Should they be realized, they will more than compensate for having materially swelled the body of expenditures."

These facts fully sustain the claim made for Mr. Humphreys in the beginning of this article. His plans met with some opposition; and one of the frigates, the *Chesapeake*, was constructed on a smaller scale than had been intended, and on a different model, although the timbers had been prepared for the larger dimensions. It is believed this change was made without the knowledge of the War Department.

The history of those ships exhibits all the qualities that were claimed for them. They proved to be fast sailers, to be capable of enduring heavy battering, and of inflicting severe injury in a brief time.

It may be unnecessary to remark here that they were officered and manned by men whose courage and daring have never been surpassed, and whose skill in seamanship and naval gunnery have rarely been equalled.

The advantages contemplated in their construction were first realized in the actions, in 1799 and 1800, between the *Constellation*, *Commodore Truxton*, and the French ships, *Vengeance* and *Insurgent*; but more fully by the naval events of the War of 1812 and 1814, which brought into conspicuous notice the system upon which the American Navy was built, and gave a powerful impulse to the construction of the navies of Europe.

Mr. Humphreys belonged to a family that had always maintained a highly respectable position. His ancestors were among the earliest settlers of Pennsylvania, emigrating from Wales in 1682, and establishing themselves in what is now Delaware County, upon one of the small tributaries of the Delaware River. There Mr. Humphreys resided during the last thirty years of his life, dying, in



1838, at the advanced age of eighty-seven, his mental faculties still unimpaired.

An amiable disposition, a generous and hospitable spirit, set off by courteous manners and a playful wit, endeared him to his friends; while the purity of his character, and intelligence of his mind, attracted the esteem of the community in which he lived.

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### DR. JAMES HUTCHINSON.

DR. HUTCHINSON was born in Wakefield township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, on the 29th day of January, 1752, and was the son of Randal Hutchinson, a highly respectable farmer, and one of the Society of Friends. He began his education under the tuition of Paul Preston, then a distinguished teacher, went subsequently to a school in Virginia, and returned to complete a collegiate course, with the highest honors, at Philadelphia, and he took the first honor.

Having devoted himself to the science of medicine, his professional studies were first pursued with Dr. Evans, in this city. From the Medical College, in 1774, he received a gold medal (which is now (1859) in the possession of his son, J. Pemberton Hutchinson, of Philadelphia), as a testimonial of his ability and attainments, more particularly in the department of chemistry. The same year he went to England, and availed himself of the instruction of the celebrated Dr. Fothergill. His return, in 1777, to America, was hastened by the political events of the times. The freedom of his opinions had indeed been the main inducement with his uncle, Israel Pemberton (under whose care he was at Philadelphia, his father being dead), to send him abroad, to withdraw him, if possible, from the impending contest. It was impossible, however, to keep him from a knowledge of the principles, designs, and exploits of his countrymen. He returned home by way of France, as the bearer of important despatches from Dr. Franklin to his Government. When on the American coast, the vessel he was in was chased by a British ship of war; and being determined to save







his despatches, he left her in an open boat, landed under the fire of the enemy, and thus succeeded. A short time after, she was captured, and everything he had, including a medical library collected in England and France, was lost. Immediately on his arrival in America he joined the army as surgeon, and became Surgeon-General of Pennsylvania, and continued with it until the peace, taking an active and most decided part in favor of America.

The Friends were inclined to expel him from their Society, for his, as they conceived, breach of their favorite principle of non-resistance; but in exhibiting to them a letter from Dr. Fothergill, advising him to the course he pursued, were induced to pass the matter over. The Doctor, in taking part with his fellow-citizens, was well aware of the consequent loss of the patronage of his uncle, so well known and so influential a man, who would no doubt have introduced him to an extensive practice in his profession among the most wealthy of the Society of Friends. After the evacuation of Philadelphia by the British army, he was called upon to act as one of the Committee of Safety. He was frequently at headquarters in times of peculiar difficulties. He was appointed, by the Act establishing the University of Pennsylvania, when but twenty-seven years of age, one of the Trustees; elected Professor of Chemistry by that institution; chosen a member of the Philosophical Society, and Physician to the Pennsylvania Hospital: in all of which situations he continued during his life. His abilities as a physician were universally acknowledged. At the time of the yellow fever, in 1793, his exertions, day and night, were unceasing, but beyond his strength. He fell a lamented victim to that fatal disease, on the 5th day of September of that year.

Dr. Hutchinson deserves a conspicuous place in the medical annals of Philadelphia. At one time he held the post of Physician for the Port of Philadelphia. To unquestioned talents and opportunities for acquiring professional distinction, and enlarging his field of usefulness, he added a winning address and popular manners. The road to fame and wealth was opened to him, but it was suddenly closed by death.

He married Miss Sydney Howell, the daughter of a respectable citizen of Philadelphia. He was an excellent husband, a fond father, and a most generous and humane man.

The gold medal presented to him, in 1774, by the Trustees of the Philadelphia College, for his superior knowledge in chemistry, had on one side a laurel branch, with the inscription, on the exergue: "Jacobus Hutchinson, 1774." On the reverse, a retort; on the exergue: "Naturæ Artisquæ Arcana Retexi. College."

Dr. Hutchinson took a warm part in the local politics of Pennsylvania, both during the American war, and after the peace. He belonged to the Democratic party, and possessed great influence. But although often solicited to fill respectable offices at the choice of the people, he always declined the compliment. He was the intimate and confidential friend of the leading men of the Revolution, and was at all times received at headquarters, and often invited to give advice by the Commander-in-Chief relative to the medical department.

His first wife was Lydia Biddle, the sister of Clement Biddle, a distinguished citizen of Philadelphia.

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## JARED INGERSOLL.

BY CHARLES J. INGERSOLL.

JARED INGERSOLL was the only child of Jared Ingersoll, of Connecticut, who represented that Colony as Commissioner in England when Franklin resided there in a similar capacity for Pennsylvania.

The family was altogether and exclusively English, without Scots, Irish, German, Swiss, French, Spanish, or any others of the foreign lineage common in so many other Americans, and had been Americanized by more than a century's descent in New England, when Jared Ingersoll, the second, was born.

In 1761-2, his father returned from England with the obnoxious appointment, which his friend Franklin there induced him to undertake, of Stamp-Master-General for the New England Colonies.

Compelled by a tumultuous assemblage of his fellow-colonists forcibly to relinquish that place, Jared Ingersoll, the elder, was then appointed Admiralty Judge for the Colony of Pennsylvania,

whereupon he removed to Philadelphia, where he resided till the Revolution.

His son Jared, after graduating at Yale College, chose Philadelphia for his residence, and the Bar for his profession. Repairing to England to accomplish his professional education, he was entered of the Middle Temple; and, during five years passed in London, diligently studied the science of law, and attended its practice in the courts. Mansfield, Blackstone, Chatham, Garrick, and other luminaries of that period, were objects of his constant attention, and of his correspondence, and ever after among the pleasures of his memory. Literature, as well as law, was his study; polite society his enjoyment. He formed acquaintances with the distinguished lawyers and members of Parliament.

Soon after the American Revolution was completely pronounced he espoused its cause with the considerate preference of youthful patriotism. Although the only child of a loyalist, he did not hesitate, without filial offence, to side with his own against the mother country, where he had for several years resided.

Taking, therefore, his departure from a country to which he disclaimed allegiance, he passed over to France, and spent a year and a half in Paris. There he added the French language to his acquirements. His father's friend, Franklin, living at Passy, as Minister of the United States, kindly welcomed Mr. Ingersoll there. With Ralph Isard, appointed Minister to Italy, but staying in Paris, John Julius Pringle, of South Carolina, and other afterwards distinguished Americans, Mr. Ingersoll likewise formed intimacies in Paris, which subsisted during life. These southern associations, without diminishing his native eastern attachments, liberalized his patriotism, freed from local and sectional prejudices, and imbued his politics with that spirit of enlarged nationality in which, following Washington, he always abided.

Returning by a winter passage in a small schooner, he escaped perils of the sea and of hostile capture, and resumed, a superior lawyer, the place he ever after occupied at the Bar of Philadelphia. Philadelphia was then the seat of Government, both Federal and State. The Supreme Court of the United States, and of the State, held their sessions there, where the most elevated jurisprudence in every branch of law was dispensed. In these courts Jared Ingersoll



soon rose to the first rank. His practice was larger than that of any others. His opinions were taken on all important controversies, his services engaged in every great litigation.

In 1787 he was chosen one of the Pennsylvania delegates to assist in forming the Constitution of the United States. Twice Attorney-General of the State, at different periods, for a short time District Attorney of the United States for Pennsylvania, and offered the Chief-Judgeship of the Federal Court created in 1801, his large practice prompted him to decline all these eminent stations. During a long career he had no superior at the Bar. Eminent for wisdom and eloquence, he was as equally so for probity and honor. Contributing liberally to every improvement introduced for the city of Philadelphia and the State of Pennsylvania, he ended his useful and exemplary life as President Judge of the District Court of Philadelphia, in the seventy-third year of his age, and the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, October 31st.

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## EDWARD D. INGRAHAM.

BY WILLIAM BROTHERHEAD.

EDWARD D. INGRAHAM is dead. He died on the first Sunday in November, 1854, in the sixty-third year of his age. Alas! this eminent bibliophilist will no longer crack his jokes for the benefit of the few friends who could appreciate them.

He was the Oldys of his day, the first man in this city that attempted anything like making a collection of American pamphlets, autographs, scarce American books, and illustrating them with the newspaper cuttings of the day. Such a man ought to be held in affectionate remembrance by the bibliographer. We ask, in true sincerity, if there is a man in this city, or in the United States, that can show thirty thousand volumes? We fear not. But the number of volumes is not the only object worthy of consideration and emulation, but the *quality*; here he certainly stood unrivalled, and it is a great pity that the executors placed the cataloguing of

such valuable books in the hands of tyros, who knew not the priceless gems that they so bunglingly handled. A catalogue ought to have been produced that would have been a monument of bibliographical learning, like "Parr's Bibliotheca;" and, as such, reflected the erudition of our scholars. An opportunity like this seldom occurs; and it is much to be regretted, for the credit of our city, and is an insult to the talents of Mr. Ingraham, that such an unmethodical and illiterate catalogue should have been produced. Not more than one-half of his books were catalogued; they were found scattered in every nook and corner of his house; and, during the time of the public sale, fresh arrivals of books came pouring in, of which no account whatever had been published. The fame of this eccentric bibliophilist was even well known in England; and, in every part of the United States, where literary men were to be found, he was one of their most active correspondents, which his papers fully attest. No man has done so much to cultivate a love for American literature. Previous to the sale of his library, hundreds of volumes on American history could have been picked up for a mere song; but now, as the auctions fully testify, such books are considered no longer as trash, but as gems; and, in many cases, bring twice the publication price. Old pamphlets are now collected and bound in volumes, which, formerly, were sold for old paper; and, it may be stated here, that there are not any books published that reflect so truly the national mind as these effervescing ebullitions of the moment; and the rage in this country is, to a great extent, due to Mr. Ingraham, for causing to be preserved such valuable historical documents.

In his personal appearance, he seemed to be more than a common man. He was about the middle size, possessing strong features, with well-arched eyebrows, that produced a lively expression, denoting an insatiable love of conversation. He was a much better subject for a physiognomist than a phrenologist, his features being more strongly marked than the conformation of his head, although Nature had endowed him with numerous and striking intellectual developments, as well as considerable magnitude of skull; but, by furnishing him also with a fine sanguine-nervous temperament, threw him out of the catalogue of men who are said to possess "large heads and little wit." His gait was somewhat

singular, occasioned by a natural defect of his feet,—not, however, so apparent as to render him an object of particular notice; nor was he so sensitive on the subject as was my Lord Byron. He was by no means very particular or over-nice in his dress, usually wearing a blue dress coat, plain pantaloons and vest, and a characteristic hat, small in size, with the brim archly turned up at the sides.

In conversation, his voice was strong and sonorous. He would give you an opinion, upon any subject, plainly and fearlessly, and you would wonder at the extent of his learning. He had not been a regular attendant at old book stores and auction-rooms for forty years without amassing a pretty general knowledge of books and the trade.

In this country, particularly, where many men have become booksellers from accident, or the force of circumstances, without possessing any knowledge of the intrinsic value of the books in which they deal, but buy and sell according to the dictum of the trade, there are very few, if any, professional booksellers who were as familiar, both as to the contents and market value, with old books especially, as was this antiquated connoisseur. He was probably better acquainted with the private histories of the courts of Europe than any other American. You might take up any of those satirical books, published anonymously, and which have been so plentiful during the last fifty years, and he would tell you who was designated by the various initials, give you the key to the plot of the whole work, and if you would have the patience to listen (for it was understood that he was not particularly reserved or modest in his zeal to impart the information he possessed), surrender to him the button of your coat, and he would post you up in the entire history of the times and personages indicated in the particular volume under discussion. He was rather guilty of knowing too much than too little,—a common fault in these superficial times.

He was well acquainted with every detail in English history, ancient and modern, from the chronicles of Stow down to those of Macaulay. If you attacked him on any point of information, you would always find him at home. He was emphatically a walking American History. The actors in the Continental Congress were

individually stereotyped on his mind, and lived in his reproductions. The scenes of the Revolution, and of our earlier history, were as vividly depicted on his memory as though he had been a living participant in them all. It was highly amusing to listen to his running comments on the authors or contents of the books on a shelf, as he took them up in rapid succession, and hastily glanced over their pages.

His private correspondence was select and extensive, and his collection of autographs was one of the largest and most valuable in the country, worthy of all the pride with which he regarded them. He was an excellent linguist, being conversant with many spoken languages, and cherished a profound love for the languages of Greece and Rome. He was an accomplished French scholar. The French works in his library were of the most superb character. He had the most costly of all illustrated books,—“Lafontaine’s Fables.” He had also the very choicest editions of Rabelais, Molière, Corneille, Racine, Voltaire, and others, in the very best Parisian bindings. If the French portion of his library had been sold in Paris, it would have yielded ten times the amount it did in this city; books which brought at his sale from a dollar to a dollar and a half per volume, would, at this period, either in Paris or London, bring five dollars per volume. A man who had the excellent judgment to purchase such fine editions, valued the language in a high degree, and it is said he spoke it like a Parisian. His Spanish books class him almost equal to the French; the selection was excellent, but the editions were not so fine, probably because the Spaniards do not publish such elegant editions as the French. The Spanish language he also spoke with considerable fluency, and the sweet Italian was equally as familiar to him. Mr. Ingraham held some public offices, which showed that men high in office valued him as a man of talent. He was on one occasion appointed Secretary to a Committee of Congress, to investigate the affairs of the second Bank of the United States, at a very critical time, and in which capacity he gave much satisfaction. His last office was that of Commissioner of the Fugitive Slave Law.

This is one of the least desirable offices a Northern man can hold; and for one to do justice in it, he must necessarily have the whole abolition party against him. In fact, in all the Middle



States the spirit of the people is entirely opposed to it; hence such a position cannot confer any particular favor on the man who has courage to hold it, and the boldness to execute its provisions. But Mr. Ingraham was just the man for this office; he cared not for public clamor; he was guided solely by the law; and he gave several important decisions, which displeased his fellow-citizens, but which he considered lawful. Amid his legal pursuits, he found time to edit a new edition of Coleman's "Broad Grins," which is now very scarce. He also published, for private circulation, an account of the burning of the Capitol at Washington by the English, in 1814. This book must be very rare; I know of only six copies in existence. He also edited several law books, which were published in this city.

A man who possessed such high and singular qualifications is deserving of being handed down to posterity, for the services he has rendered to the commonwealth, and to excite emulation among mankind.

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## GENERAL WILLIAM IRVINE.

BY GENERAL JOHN ARMSTRONG.

GENERAL WILLIAM IRVINE was a native of Ireland, and was born about the year 1741. During the war between England and France (from 1754 to 1763), Irvine was appointed a surgeon in the British Navy, and the year after the close of the war, he settled in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, where he practised his profession until 1774, when he was elected a member of the first Provincial Convention, which assembled in Philadelphia. In January, 1776, he received the appointment of Colonel of the sixth battalion of the Pennsylvania Line, which subsequently formed a portion of General Sullivan's brigade, and proceeded to Canada. On the 10th of June following, Colonel Irvine's battalion, then forming a portion of the command of General Thompson, was engaged in the action at Trois Rivières, on the St. Lawrence, below Montreal, where, owing to unforeseen accidents and the vastly superior force





of the enemy, notwithstanding their gallant efforts, the Americans were unsuccessful, and General Thompson and Colonel Irvine were made prisoners. Colonel Irvine was not exchanged until 1778, when he was immediately promoted by Congress to the rank of Brigadier-General. After various services well performed, he was, in 1781, placed in command of the important frontier post of Fort Pitt, the site of the present city of Pittsburg, which command was conducted much to the satisfaction of Congress and of the Commander-in-chief.

After the close of the war, General Irvine was twice elected to Congress, and he filled many other important posts, such as being a member of the Board for the settlement of the accounts of the different States with the United States, Commissioner for laying out the town of Erie, Pennsylvania, Commissioner on the part of the State at the time of the Whiskey Insurrection, General in command of the Pennsylvania Militia for quelling the insurrection, member of the Council of Censors for deciding upon revisions necessary in the State Constitution, and Superintendent of Military Stores, besides being President of the Pennsylvania Society of the Cincinnati. He died in Philadelphia, July 30, 1804, in the sixty-third year of his age, after a life of usefulness and honor.

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## MAJOR WILLIAM JACKSON.

MAJOR WILLIAM JACKSON was born in 1752, and died December 17, 1822. Major Jackson was distinguished for his services during the Revolutionary War, and in a civil capacity. He was highly regarded as a scholar and a gentleman. At the early age of sixteen he received a commission in the Continental Army, and faithfully served his country during eight years of the contest for independence. During a portion of the time he served as aid-de-camp to the Commander-in-chief. Major Jackson, as Secretary of Legation, accompanied the accomplished Colonel Laurens to the court of France, in 1781, and he was actively and usefully engaged in the arrangements which were the result of the demand for aid made

by that gentleman on the French King. It is known, that among the important consequences of that mission was the expedition under Count De Grasse and General Rochambeau, by means of whose combined operations with the American army the capture of the British forces under Cornwallis was effected.

After the close of the war, Major Jackson visited Europe upon private business, and on his return, he was appointed Secretary of the Convention which formed the Constitution of the United States. To this highly honorable post he was first named by General Washington; and at the termination of the labors of that body of patriots and statesmen, he received a vote of thanks for his services. In addition to the official record of the acts of the Convention, Major Jackson preserved full private notes of the proceedings and debates, and these are now in the possession of his family. It was the request of General Washington that these notes should not be published during *his* life.

On the organization of the Federal Government, Major Jackson became the Private Secretary of President Washington, of whose esteem and confidence he always enjoyed a full share. By him he was afterwards appointed Surveyor of the Port of Philadelphia and Inspector of Customs, which station he held until the election of Mr. Jefferson, who removed him. His conduct in office was without reproach. The talents of Major Jackson, as a writer, were of a superior order, and few men possessed more extensive classical knowledge. His style was at once fluent and vigorous. By the appointment of his brethren of the Society of the Cincinnati, he pronounced a eulogium on Washington, which was highly extolled. After the removal of Major Jackson from office, by President Jefferson, he started a daily newspaper, which was called "The Political and Commercial Register." It was continued until the year 1815. Major Jackson married Miss Willing, the sister of Thomas Willing and of Mrs. Bingham.

## THOMAS C. JAMES, M.D.

BY HUGH L. HODGE, M.D.

DR. THOMAS CHALKLEY JAMES was born in Philadelphia, August 31st, 1766. He was well educated after the manner of Friends, especially at their school under the superintendence of Robert Proud, the historian of Pennsylvania. No doubt can exist that his love of literature, and of books in general, must have been at this period manifested, as his proficiency was early evinced, and a superiority over his cotemporaries in this respect existed, which could not otherwise be explained. He commenced and prosecuted the study of medicine under the direction of that eminent practitioner, Dr. Adam Kuhn, a disciple of Linnæus, whose opinion always carried weight among his medical brethren, and who had the honor of educating some of the first physicians of our country. In 1787, at the age of twenty-one, he received the certificate of Bachelor of Medicine, from the University of Pennsylvania, of which his preceptor, Dr. Kuhn, was a distinguished professor. It was about this period that his father's affairs became deranged, and the desire of the son to have a complete medical education, then not to be procured in America, seemed to be thwarted. He did not despair, but, through the influence of friends, procured, in the fall of 1788, the situation of a surgeon in the *Samson*, a mercantile vessel, to the Cape of Good Hope and Canton; and, by the results of this tedious voyage, was enabled to carry his anxious wishes into complete execution. He returned home early in the summer of 1790, and soon afterwards completed his long-contemplated preparations for finishing his medical education in Europe. After receiving advice and instructions from his experienced friends and preceptors, Dr. Adam Kuhn and Dr. Wistar, he sailed for London in the fall of the year, a short time before the death of his beloved and respected father,—the intelligence of this melancholy event reaching him not very long after his arrival.

In London he found his countryman and fellow-student, Dr. P. S. Physick, a pupil and an assistant of the celebrated Mr. John Hunter, pursuing his studies in St. George's Hospital. By Physick's advice, Dr. James entered (May 30th, 1791) as a house-pupil of the Story Street Lying-in Hospital, under the care of Drs. Osborne and John Clarke, the two leading obstetric practitioners and teachers in London. In this institution he had soon the pleasure of receiving, as a companion, his friend Dr. J. Cathrall, who was also with him at Canton. The winter of 1791-2 was spent in London, chiefly in attending lectures, and also as an attendant at St. George's Hospital.

After much deliberation respecting the relative advantages of spending a winter in Edinburgh or Paris, and after consulting by letter his friends on this side of the Atlantic, he finally followed the example of Dr. Physick and Cathrall, and went to Edinburgh, in the spring of 1792. Here he remained and attended the lectures during the succeeding winter, in company with Dr. Hosack, of New York, and Dr. Ruan, one of our fellow-members, whose acquaintance with Dr. James commenced at Edinburgh.

It does not appear that Dr. James graduated at Edinburgh, in imitation of his friends, Drs. Wistar and Physick, being content with the honors of his own University, in Philadelphia, then in its infancy. In the month of June, 1793, Dr. James, accompanied by Dr. Ruan, arrived at Wiscasset, in the then District of Maine. They reached Philadelphia a short time only before the terrible and then unknown epidemic, the yellow fever, visited this city. Dr. James had hardly time to receive the congratulations of his anxious friends, when the fatal scourge appeared, bringing dismay and terror, even to the boldest spirits. Before time was afforded him for exerting his talents and acquired knowledge for the benefit of others, he himself became a sufferer, and for some time was disabled. He probably had but a slight attack, for in a letter dated Philadelphia, September 20th, 1793, to his mother, he makes no mention of his own health, while he alludes to the dismal scenes which his family and professional duties had made too familiar.

The winter dissipated the epidemic, and of course the fears, although not the sorrows of the inhabitants of Philadelphia. Dr. James undertook the more regular business of his profession, but



did not yet feel himself settled; for the ensuing year we find him acting surgeon to the "Macpherson Blues, on the Western Expedition."

On his return from this military expedition, he opened his office, and became a candidate for professional business and reputation in this city, under the most favorable prospects of success. The yellow fever had greatly thinned the ranks of the profession. Dr. Way and Dr. Carson had lately died. Dr. Dunlap, who was extensively and almost exclusively devoted to obstetrics, was advancing in years, and depended much, says Dr. Ruan, on Dr. James, whilst his competitors, although numerous, were about his own age, and perhaps none of them possessed the advantages which Dr. James enjoyed. He married Miss Hannah Morris, a lady connected with one of the first families in Pennsylvania, eminently adapted, by her mild but decided character, her judicious yet cheerful disposition, to meet the peculiarities of Dr. James's character. His success became certain, business rapidly increased, and his time became fully occupied with patients and pupils, all of whom admired and loved him.

In 1802, November 17th, Dr. James, in conjunction with the late Dr. Church, commenced his first regular course of lectures on obstetrics. To render his teaching useful, Dr. James, assisted by Dr. Church, not only employed the usual modes of illustration, but zealously endeavored to instruct practically, as well as theoretically. For this purpose, his influence and exertions prevailed in having a "lying-in ward" (the first in this city), established at the Alms-house, over which he presided as attending accoucheur. To each case of labor was admitted not only the resident pupils of the house, but three of those attending the lectures, so that in succession all were furnished with cases, the peculiarities of which were duly explained.

The first course of lectures terminated on the 2d March, 1803; the second commenced May 10th, of the same year. So that two courses were delivered every year for three years. On the death of Dr. Church, which occurred about this period, Dr. James associated Dr. Chapman with himself, lecturing with him during the winter of 1807-8, and subsequently as a private and public teacher.



In 1808, Dr. Shippen died, and Dr. Wistar was appointed his successor, as Professor of Anatomy and of Midwifery. Dr. Wistar immediately perceived that these two departments of medical science ought to constitute two distinct professorships. On the 3d of January, 1809, he communicated these sentiments to the Board of Trustees; but it was not until the 11th of April, 1810, that the Board took action on this important proposal of Dr. Wistar, and declared by resolution that there should be a separate Professorship of Midwifery in the University of Pennsylvania.

Of course, the canvassing among the friends of the candidates was spirited; each party felt confident of success, for each had a superior man to support, although the natural modesty and diffidence of Dr. James not a little interfered in the advancement of his claims. The election by the Trustees was made June 29th, 1810, and terminated in the elevation of Dr. T. C. James as Professor of Midwifery in the University of Pennsylvania, with the understanding that he should be assisted by Dr. Chapman. This was a most important epoch, not only in the life of Dr. James, but in the history of Medical Science, particularly of obstetrics, in the United States.

The first course of lectures in the University was commenced by the new Professor in November, 1810, and although supported, not by any positive regulations on the part of the Trustees, but merely by the indirect influence of the school, and by the personal character of the teachers, was attended by a large proportion of the medical students then assembled in Philadelphia. Succeeding years witnessed increased attention to obstetrics; the importance of the science and its great practical utility were more obvious, and its complete triumph over ignorance and prejudice was at hand.

In May, 1813, the medical profession lost one of its brightest ornaments, Dr. Benjamin Rush, the Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine, whose life and opinions have become identified with the history of medicine in our country. He was succeeded by Dr. Benjamin Smith Barton in the practical chair, on the 14th July, 1813; while the chair of Therapeutics and Materia Medica, vacated by the resignation of Dr. Barton, was assigned to Dr. Chapman, on the 13th August, 1813, and Dr. James was left the Professor of Obstetrics, without an assistant. On this interesting

event, the following resolution was unanimously passed by the Board of Trustees, in October, 1813: "Resolved, that hereafter the Professor of Midwifery shall be a member of the Medical Faculty, and shall have all the power, authority, and privileges belonging to a professorship in the said Faculty, and that no person shall be admitted hereafter as a candidate for the degree of Doctor of Medicine in this University, unless he shall have regularly attended the lectures of the said Professor for two years, provided," &c.

This triumph of truth and humanity over ignorance and prejudice may be considered as complete. Obstetrics was confessedly equal to the other practical branches of medical science; and its practitioners and teachers were authoritatively pronounced on a par with those of Surgery and the Practice of Medicine. The battle had been fairly fought and won, and Dr. James, who, we have seen, contributed so much to this happy issue, received now the reward so eminently due to modest worth, superior talents and attainments, united with persevering industry.

Some fifty years had passed over his head. Age had made an undue impression, owing perhaps partly to original temperament, but more to mental and corporeal exertion, to anxiety, to loss of sleep and necessary exposure. He was partially bald, his hair whitened, and his form originally so perfect, was now somewhat bent, but his ruddy and healthful aspect, his fine countenance, his diffident yet refined manners, his affability, his condescension to medical students, his great intellectual and moral worth, excited feelings of affection and veneration in the minds and hearts of all.

Dr. James continued to lecture without assistance, to the increasing classes of the University, until 1821, when, with the desire of relieving himself of a portion of his duties, but especially with the wish of rendering the course more valuable, he requested the assistance of the then adjunct professor of anatomy, Dr. Horner, in demonstrating the anatomical portions of the lectures, and in exemplifying to the sub-classes, the mode of performing obstetric operations. Soon, however, the lamentable fact began to be apparent to Dr. James, as well as to the pupils, that his physical powers were failing. A nervous tremor was occasionally observed in the fingers of the right hand; gradually but very slowly, it extended

to the muscles of the right arm ; and in a few years involved all his nervous and muscular system, exciting the symptoms of a premature old age, and indirectly becoming the cause of his death. Soon after, his voice began to fail, so that great attention was requisite to hear him during the lecture. He applied to the Trustees for an assistant to his chair. In consequence of this suggestion, the following resolution was passed on the 18th of October, 1825.

“That an Adjunct Professor of Midwifery be appointed, who shall hold his appointment so long as Dr. James continues to be Professor of Midwifery : provided that the expenses of the student shall be in no manner increased by such appointment, and that such an Adjunct Professor shall have no vote in the Faculty of Medicine, except in the absence of the Professor of Midwifery, to whom he is adjunct.”

On the 15th of November, 1825, Dr. William P. Dewees was unanimously elected Adjunct Professor under the foregoing resolution, and immediately entered on the duties of his new situation.

Dr. James in justice alike to his own character, to Dr. Dewees, and the University, resigned in the month of June, 1834, his professorship, of which he in a great measure, may be considered the founder, and the reputation of which he sustained for the long period of twenty-four years.

During his professional career, he became engaged also with many private and public institutions as physician in ordinary, or as consulting physician ; among others, with the Welsh Society, St. George's Society ; also with the Philadelphia Dispensary, where for many years he was consulted by the attending physicians, many of whom, with much gratitude, bear testimony to the value of his assistance, and to the readiness and cheerfulness with which it was at all times rendered. As formerly remarked, he might be regarded as the founder of the “Lying-in Department” of the Philadelphia Almshouse Infirmary, over which he presided until about the year 1807, endeavoring to render it practically important for students of medicine. In 1807 (Jan. 26th), he was appointed Physician to the Pennsylvania Hospital, as successor of Dr. J. Redman Coxe, and on the 25th of June, 1810, was translated at his own request to the station of Obstetric Physician. The duties of this appointment he continued to discharge with scrupulous attention and punctuality, until the 26th of November, 1832.

In the Philadelphia Medical Society, Dr. James was an honorary member, but the exciting character of its debates never seemed to suit the quiet tenor of his feelings, and he rarely, at least of late years, attended its meetings. To the College of Physicians he was much attached. Its quiet and dignified course well suited the peculiarities of his character. Within its precincts, he was sure to meet with his cotemporaries and personal friends, or with those who were gratified in numbering themselves among his pupils and admirers; and he there never anticipated that rude collision of sentiment, which, although it may occasionally elicit the spark of genius, too frequently generates the fires of envy and passion. He was elected Fellow of the College on the 6th of October, 1795, and in July, 1796, he succeeded Dr. Samuel P. Griffitts as secretary. The duties of that office he discharged for six years. In 1809, he was made treasurer, and continued as such for seventeen years; at the expiration of this period in 1826, he became Vice-President, and finally, in March, 1835, he was unanimously elected President, as the successor of Dr. Parke. We all remember the interest which he took in the affairs of the College, the pleasure with which he attended its meetings, and the suavity and dignity with which he presided over its deliberations. Great, however, as was his confidence in his associates, and anxious as he was for the improvement of medical science, he was unwilling to present his sentiments in written communications to the society. With perhaps one exception, the papers he read were rather the history of facts than the detail of opinions. On the 9th of April, 1804, he presented the history of a case of hydatids. On the 4th of September, 1810, he gave the details of a case of premature labor, artificially induced by himself, in the case of a contracted pelvis, after the expiration of the seventh month, with the gratifying result of safety to mother and child. This is the first record, we believe, in this country, of the scientific performance of this operation, for which much credit is due to Dr. James, especially as in America and Europe generally, it is still viewed with suspicious eyes, although in Britain, it is regarded as an established operation in certain defined cases.

Connected with his efforts to favor the beneficial influence of the College, and the progress of medical science in our country, was the establishment and support of a most valuable periodical work,



termed, as evincive of its character, "The Eclectic Repertory," commenced in the year 1811, and carried on for eleven years with great advantage to students and practitioners of medicine. Although chiefly eclectic from foreign books and journals, many valued domestic and original monographs and cases were admitted, which enhanced the interest and importance of the publication. The names of the editors whose disinterested labors and judicious efforts were for a long time lent to this undertaking have not been published, but were known to most of the members of the College. They were Drs. Hewson, Parrish, Otto, James. The latter is well known to have spent much time in selecting and preparing suitable materials, although he did not frequently contribute original matter to its pages.

Such are the most important and interesting facts which we have been able to procure respecting the public and professional duties of our late President. There is another series of facts which might be brought into view as exceedingly interesting, but which have only an indirect bearing on his character before the world. We allude to his private, his domestic history; but this is and ought to be a sacred subject, to be touched by no foreign hand. Suffice it to observe that, what Dr. James was abroad, he was at home, excepting that, when in company with friends and relations, reserve would be banished, and his warm, full heart, would overflow, in confidential and familiar intercourse, with his family and friends.

Thus blessed in his domestic relations, in his social circle, and in the confidence of the public as a practitioner and teacher of medicine, the moderate expectations of Dr. James were abundantly gratified; he had all that this world could bestow to render life happy and useful. He, however, felt and acknowledged that more was requisite to satisfy the wants of man, and he early found that religion alone can give zest to temporal enjoyments, and dissipate the dread of a future state of existence so natural to the human soul. In this state of mind, looking forward to an eternity of increasing knowledge, holiness, and happiness, he died, July 5th, 1835; leaving us, his surviving friends, and the medical profession, a bright example of the accomplished physician and the Christian gentleman, who always preferred the useful to the brilliant; and who, however others may have surpassed him in originality of



thought and boldness of execution, was inferior to none in that pure morality, that unsophisticated integrity, that sound, discriminating judgment, so essential for the practitioner of medicine; which exalt and dignify the professor, and render him a blessing to the community.

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### FRANCIS JOHNSON.

FRANCIS JOHNSON was a native of the State of Pennsylvania. He had just commenced the practice of the law when the Revolutionary War commenced; when, abandoning his private pursuits, he joined General Anthony Wayne in raising a body of men, which were commanded by Wayne as Colonel, and Johnson as Lieutenant-Colonel. Upon the promotion of Colonel Wayne, the subject of this memoir succeeded to the command of the 5th Pennsylvania Regiment, with which he was present at many of the most sanguinary conflicts during the war: at Ticonderoga, Stony Point, Monmouth, Brandywine, and other battles. After the restoration of peace, he held several offices of honor and profit under the Government of his native State; and, in his declining years, having had his fortune materially injured by misplaced confidence, he was elected to the very lucrative and honorable office of High Sheriff of the City and County of Philadelphia. He was elected to this by those who differed with him in political opinion, thereby showing, however true the charge of ingratitude may be against republics generally, that the *people* of republican America have not forgotten the services of those to whose exertions they are indebted for the liberty they now enjoy. He died, in Philadelphia, on the 22d February, 1815, in the sixty-seventh year of his age. He was a benevolent man and a kind friend.

## JOHN JONES, M.D.

DR. JONES, a physician, of Welsh extraction, was the son of Evan Jones, a physician, and was born at Jamaica, Long Island, in 1729. After studying physic with Dr. Cadwalader, at Philadelphia, he completed his medical education in Europe,—at London, Paris, Leyden, and Edinburgh. On his return, he settled at New York, and was particularly eminent as a surgeon. In the war of 1775, he served as a surgeon in the army. The French commander, Dieskau, severely wounded, was attended by him. On the establishment of a medical school in New York, he was appointed Professor of Surgery. Soon after he settled in the city, the physicians agreed, for their own dignity, to wear their hair in a particular *bob*, and he, refusing to concur in the project, they refused to consult with him. But he soon triumphed, and the powers of ridicule compelled the medical men to wear their hair like other gentlemen. In the Revolutionary War he left the city when it was occupied by the enemy. In 1780, he settled in Philadelphia, where he was the physician of Washington and Franklin. He died June 23d, 1791, aged sixty-two years. In his religious views he was a Quaker.

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## COMMODORE JACOB JONES.

COMMODORE JONES, of the United States Navy, was born in Smyrna, Delaware, in 1770, studied medicine, and graduated at the University of Pennsylvania, but soon abandoned the practice of his profession. In 1790, he entered the navy as a midshipman; in 1801 was promoted to the rank of lieutenant; was an officer of the frigate *Philadelphia*, under Captain Bainbridge, when she was captured, in 1803, in the harbor of Tripoli; remained a prisoner for eighteen months thereafter; in 1810, was promoted to the rank of master-commandant, and when war was declared against Great



1871

JOHN  
The History of the  
City of New York  
from its first settlement  
to the present time  
by John E. Smith  
of New York. N. Y.  
John E. Smith. 1871

Britain, in 1812, he was in command of the sloop of war *Wasp*. On the 18th of October, 1812, he captured the sloop of war *Frolic*, a vessel of superior force, after an action of forty-three minutes. Captain Jones was honored with a vote of thanks by Congress, together with a gold medal, for his gallant conduct in this engagement, which was one of the most creditable encounters which occurred during the course of the war. He was promoted to the rank of post-captain in 1813, and continued in the navy, discharging his various duties, until within a few months of his death, which occurred in Philadelphia, in July, 1850.

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## JOHN K. KANE.

JOHN K. KANE, was born May 16, 1795; died February 21, 1858.

Judge Kane, though remarkable for his attachment to Philadelphia, was of New York origin. Two of his great-grandmothers, on the mother's side, belonged to the Livingston family of that State. His mother was the daughter of General Robert Van Rensselaer, of Claverack Manor, on the Hudson. His grandfather, Colonel John Kane, or O'Kane, a native of Ireland, who claimed property of the O'Neills of Antrim, is buried at Albany, under a conspicuous monument in the Presbyterian Cemetery.

Elisha Kane, Judge Kane's father, came from New York to establish a branch of the house of Kane, Brothers & Co., in 1801, when his son was about six years of age, and resided for many years in the house on Walnut Street, above Ninth, since the property of Mr. May Humphreys. The subject of this memoir was sent, in 1810, to Yale College, of which an ancestor, the Rev. Samuel Russell, of Branford, son of the Russell who harbored the regicides at Hadley, was one of the founders; but he was accustomed to ascribe more value to the instruction which he received at a Catholic seminary at Mount Airy. It was under the charge of the Rev. F. X. Brosius, one of those Philadelphia worthies, to whose memory the writer of the present biography regrets that he



cannot pay more than this passing tribute. There are many still living who, like Judge Kane, confessed their obligations to this estimable man, and remembered his parting injunction to his Protestant pupils: "God bless you, my dear child. Never forget your charity towards the oldest church of Christians." Rarely was any other word of allusion to the difference in their creeds permitted to escape him.

After his graduation at Yale, Judge Kane studied law in the office of the late Judge Hopkinson, and was admitted to the Bar in April, 1817.

The press, upon Judge Kane's decease, noticed the part taken by him in a number of enterprises, which have been carried through with difficulty. He was a coadjutor of Nicholas Biddle, in his first efforts in favor of the great work, of which he ought to be remembered as the author, the Sunbury and Erie Railroad, and assisted, perhaps more than any other citizen, to procure the completion of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal. He headed the struggle of the first Board of Trustees to open the Girard College; contended in the Girard Bank against the expansion of its loans; as chairman of various Building Committees, planned and built the Second Presbyterian Church, and a number of other public edifices. As Trustee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, he took a prominent part in the unhappy controversy which separated the New School from the Old School members of the sect. He was a directing mind in the Academy of Fine Arts and the Musical Fund Society, and before his retirement from it, was, we believe, President of the latter. The institution was founded by Judge Kane, in connection with the late Drs. Robert M. Patterson and William P. Dewees, and its Hall is erected upon ground purchased by Judge Kane from Alexander Henry, the grandfather of the present Mayor. Judge Kane was also Vice-President of the Institution for the Blind at the time of his decease, and President of the American Philosophical Society. In his youth, he was a member of the Philadelphia Hose Company, and an active fireman till he had a bad fall with the "branch pipe" from the steeple of the State House when it was on fire. He was a mason of eminence, too, and one of those honored by the hostile notice of the Anti-Masonic party in 1831-2.

Judge Kane did not aspire to be conspicuous as a politician. Chance more than choice seemed to bring him into the administration of public affairs, though once in place his native strength asserted his fitness to command. But he figured more commonly as a writer of other men's speeches—a prompter of the stock performers on the stage, who could find his sufficient reward and enjoyment in seeing the drama enacted of which he might have claimed to be the author. He began life as a Federalist. He was elected to the Legislature “in those last days of the Federal party, when a man would have begged as creditably for a pair of breeches as for a nomination or a vote.” Before the session of 1824 was ended, the old political parties were shattered, and it was evident that new issues were about to be contested under new combinations of public men. Judge Kane signalized himself by his ardent and able support of General Jackson. In the October elections of 1828, the Democrats elected their city ticket by a large majority, their first victory in many years. Councils chose Mr. Dallas for Mayor, and he conferred on Mr. Kane the appointment of City Solicitor. He acted as Solicitor from 1828 to 1830, and was appointed afterwards in 1832, when the Democrats were again in power. In the summer of 1832, however, he was appointed by General Jackson a Commissioner, under the Convention of Indemnity with France. This appointment carried him to Washington, and placed him near the old hero, who loved him with the affection of which his great nature was capable.

Judge Kane enjoyed Jackson's confidence. He was the author of the first attack on the United States Bank which appeared in print, and was taxed with having been an adviser of the removal of the deposits, and other measures of hostility to the Bank. He rejoiced on this account in a social proscription at home for some time. It has been alleged that he was the author of portions of more than one message of General Jackson, and of a memorable letter, addressed to him by Mr. Polk during the Presidential canvass of 1844. The materials may be in existence for disproving these assertions, but it is not denied that he was the effective manœuvrer of the Democratic columns through what has been termed the Buckshot War of Pennsylvania.

By the elections of 1838 the House of Representatives was so

divided between the political parties, that the votes of the Philadelphia County delegation determined the majority. This majority, upon the organization of the House, was to elect the Speaker for the session, and the Speaker so elected had the appointment of the Committees. Besides, as the rejected claimants could not, according to rule, obtain their seats afterwards, however clear their title, except through the dilatory formalities of a contested election, it would have been in the power of this accidental and temporary majority to canvass and proclaim as they saw fit the popular vote on the new Constitution and on the Governor's election, and to choose the State Treasurer and the United States Senator before the majority power passed over to their opponents. The question, therefore, was a vital one.

These were high party times, it must be borne in mind. The United States Bank had just been chartered by the commonwealth. There was much bitterness of feeling between its friends and its opponents, and they met face to face at Harrisburg to fight it out upon this question. The Democrats, by popular tumult, interfered with the action of the Senate recognizing an organization of the House based upon returns favorable to the Whig party; and Governor Ritner, proclaiming that insurrection was raging at the capital, invoked the assistance of the President of the United States, and the commander of the United States forces at Carlisle barracks, and ordered the Philadelphia Division of Volunteers to march instantly to effect the restoration of order.

Upon this, mass meetings were held in Philadelphia, at which extreme measures were proposed by advocates of both parties. The Whigs, however, judiciously appointed a Committee of Conference, of which the venerable Horace Binney was Chairman. The Democrats, in return, constituted Judge Kane chairman of one to meet them. Negotiations failing (the troops marching in the night while they were pending), Committees of Safety were appointed at the Democratic headquarters, without delay. Judge Kane was announced to lecture before the Athenian Institute that evening. He lectured upon Hamlet, and Mr. Chandler, the editor then of the United States Gazette, remarks, in his paper, "Our friends returned from the Hall highly delighted;" and at midnight he was on his way to Harrisburg as the representative of the party.

Judge Kane was the author of the Protest of the Hopkins House, the formal appeal to the people of the State, and an ordinance summoning a Convention to reconstitute Government in Pennsylvania, which proclaimed in its preamble that government, under the Constitution, had been suspended by the act of the Governor and Senate.

Judge Kane was a strict party man, and supported Mr. Van Buren, after General Jackson's retirement from office, till Mr. Polk received the nomination of the Baltimore Convention, in 1844. In 1845, Governor Shunk appointed him Attorney-General, and he was a leading spirit in the counsels of that noble Pennsylvanian, until his lamented death. It was as Attorney-General of the State, that he earned an odium upon which he prided himself—being accused of oppressive efforts to secure the punishment of Americans in the Anti-Catholic riots of Kensington and Southwark. Shortly after President Polk's accession to office, he tendered Judge Kane the Vienna mission, which he refused. It has also lately transpired that he was named to Mr. Polk by General Jackson, as a member of his cabinet.

Immediately after the death of Judge Archibald Randall, in June, 1846, the President named Judge Kane to succeed him in the District Court of the United States. Judge Kane resigned the Attorney-Generalship with regret, his notions of propriety upon the Bench imposing on him a life of comparative obscurity. His course, however, upon certain occasions—particularly those which grew out of the support which he gave the execution of the Fugitive Slave Law, made his position of note outside of the Bar. Probably no other citizen of our time has been assailed with greater vehemence; though it is worthy of note, that those who were most severely injured by his judicial action, were among those who testified most regret at his decease.

Judge Kane seemed to lose his natural energy, when conscious that he was laboring for himself. It was understood, shortly before his death, that he was engaged in preparing a work upon the law of the sea, and the jurisdiction of the Admiralty in the United States. It is much to be regretted that not a volume of his judicial decisions has ever been published. He was the first to decide many important innovations to be law, and in those cases in which



he was reversed, the Bar by whom he was beloved, admired the originality of his conceptions, and the vigorous logic which supported them. Nor has any collection been made of his miscellaneous publications. His accomplishments being as versatile as his scholarship was thorough, he wrote upon subjects of almost every conceivable character. In his youth he was a writer for the press, whose criticisms were sovereign upon subjects connected with the fine arts. He was the editor for unlettered friends of several popular works in law, medicine, and divinity; he was the author of numerous reports of engineers and legislative bodies on canals, railways, manufactures, and internal improvements. Probably more of our public institutions owe their charters and systems of regulations to his than any other hand. In short, he was a law-maker among us for a quarter of a century, and an overtasked public servant for an even longer period. He took up the burdens of life in the service of other men—found its comfort that he spent it chiefly in the service of other good men.

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### ELISHA KENT KANE.

DR. ELISHA KENT KANE was born in Philadelphia in 1822. Nearly a third of his life was consumed in travel out of the limits of the United States. No man of his years, however, was more thoroughly acquainted with the geographical features of his own country. He was educated at the Universities of Virginia and Pennsylvania, graduating as a doctor of medicine in 1843. His graduation thesis on "Kyestine" was crowned by the faculty, and is still cited as authority in the books of the profession. Immediately after receiving his degree, he was appointed upon the diplomatic staff as surgeon to the first American embassy to China. He availed himself of the facilities afforded by his position to explore the Philippines, most of which travel, including Camarinas and Mindoro, was made on foot. His charts are still preserved, but we believe have not been published. His associate during a portion of this exploration, the lamented young Baron Loe, of





Prussia, sank under the effects of the hardship and exposure which attended upon it, and died in Java. Dr. Kane devoted much attention to the volcanic region of Albay, expecting to connect his observations with subsequent travels in Sombava. His sojourn among the Negritos and Araturas was one of romantic interest. He was the first who descended the crater of the Tacl, upon which occasion he effected a topographical sketch of the interior of this great volcano. He was lowered more than a hundred feet by a bamboo rope from an overhanging cliff, and clambering down some seven hundred feet through the scoriæ, was dragged up senseless, with the interesting specimens which he had collected; among these were bottles of sulphurous acid from the very mouth of the crater.

After this, Dr. Kane traversed India, spending a considerable time among the monolithic structures of Arungabad (which would seem to have particularly attracted his notice), visited Ceylon, the Upper Nile, the Oases of Jupiter Ammon, &c., and various classic regions which have since become the trodden ground of European tourists. A portion of this travel introduced him to the learned Lepsius, who was then prosecuting his researches in Egypt. Returning, however, Dr. Kane was so unfortunate as to lose his *dabeah* in a quicksand above E'Sloot, and with it his entire papers and journals of years of interesting travel.

Taking a profound interest in the workings of the slave trade, Dr. Kane next sailed from home in the frigate *United States* for the coast of Africa. He visited the slave factories from Cape Mount to the river Bonny, and had free access to the baracoons of Dahomey through the influence of the infamous Da Sowza. An excursion which he planned to Abomey, favored by the Portuguese, failed through a severe attack of the coast fever, from the effects of which Dr. Kane's constitution never entirely recovered.

Dr. Kane's personal adventures in Mexico are part of the history of his country. His wounds on the field of Nopaluca, which were of a very serious nature, opened to him the hospitalities of his prisoner, Major-General Gaona, the defender of San Juan d'Ulloa against the French, and secured him the gratitude of other Mexican citizens of the highest distinction. We believe, however, that his travels through the Republic of the Cactus carried him little out-

side the lines of military operations. After his brilliant performance of the duty of carrying President Polk's despatches to General Scott, he was still necessarily trammelled by the movements of the American forces. His barometrical altitudes of Popocatepetl, however, are of value.

On the return of peace, he was assigned to the Coast Survey, under Professor Bache, and was at work in the Gulf of Mexico when the liberality of Mr. Grinnell stimulated the Government of the United States to the first American expedition in search of Sir John Franklin. Dr. Kane immediately volunteered his services, and was accepted as the Senior Surgeon of the Squadron. His "Personal Narrative" of this cruise was published in 1852.

Before it was completed for the press, he had effected his arrangements for the last Arctic Expedition, appropriating to this cherished object his own pecuniary resources, as well as drawing largely on those of Mr. Grinnell and several of the scientific institutions of this country.

The history of that expedition and the remarkable discoveries to which it led are now before the country. They constitute in themselves an imperishable monument to Dr. Kane's fame. It will ever be a subject of deep regret that the sufferings through which he passed to achieve those results should have prevented him from reaping the full benefit of the honors to which they would unquestionably have led. As it is, his family and his admirers must content themselves with the reflection that he leaves behind him a reputation that no reward could enhance, and better still, that no reproach can sully.

Dr. Kane died at Havana on the 16th February, 1857, aged thirty-five years.

A full and complete Life of him by Dr. Elder is published in this city.

## JAMES KAY.

BY A FRIEND.

THE decease of James Kay, which took place at his residence, in Philadelphia, on the 22d of April, 1856, will leave a vacant spot in a large circle of acquaintance, to whom he was endeared by the sterling excellencies of his character, and especially among the friends of social reform, of which, for the last fifteen years, he had been a prominent, judicious, and devoted advocate. Mr. Kay was a native of England, and received his early education at one of the celebrated classical schools in that country, with a view of admission to the University of Oxford. The adoption of liberal religious views by his father (since a highly-esteemed Unitarian clergyman in Pennsylvania), and the subsequent removal of his family to the United States, prevented the accomplishment of that purpose. For many years Mr. Kay was extensively engaged in the printing and publishing business in Philadelphia. Combining a thorough knowledge of the mechanical details of that business with a familiarity with literature rare in any profession; and a taste, exquisite in its perceptions, and rigid in its exactions, his daily pursuits were elevated to the rank of an intellectual employment. The publications issued by the house of which he was the principal member, especially in the departments of law and education, bear a distinguished reputation, and are usually marked by their beauty of execution as well as the substantial value of their contents. His fine literary attainments, and his varied accomplishments in art, made him the chosen companion of many of the most cultivated persons of the day; although a natural fastidiousness and reserve, with a keen sense of the want of harmonic relations, indisposed him for the enjoyment of general society.

Mr. Kay was a firm believer in the ultimate substitution of a social organization, founded on unity of interests, in place of the existing discordant and antagonistic arrangements of industry, commerce, and civic life. He was one of the earliest and most

active supporters of this cause at a time when it had few friends and a host of opponents. His devotion to it never faltered. His time, his purse, his knowledge of affairs, his sagacious counsels, and his untiring energies, were freely lavished in its support. He regarded the practical experiments which have been attempted in this country with deep interest, as exerting an important influence on education, and the union of mental culture with material industry. No temporary want of success diminished his faith in the principles which they aimed to illustrate. He died, as he had lived, in the hope of a social order adapted to the essential needs and highest aspirations of humanity.

In private life, Mr. Kay was a model of courtesy, unselfishness, friendship, and paternal devotion. His intellect was of surpassing acuteness and subtlety of discrimination. Few persons excelled him in his powers of conversation. His variety of knowledge, his keen penetration, his delicate, but piercing wit, and his warm sympathies with all genuine expressions of character, made his society a source of rare enjoyment to those whom he honored with his confidence. With his uncommon gifts, he would have shone in a more public sphere of action, had not his inveterate inclinations courted retirement; but the remembrance of the friends in whose hearts he filled so large a place, will long retain the impression of the qualities which gave his nature such a rich and attractive individuality. Mr. Kay had been a confirmed invalid for the last ten years, and was in the fifty-second year of his age at the time of his death.

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## JOHN KEARSLEY.

JOHN KEARSLEY, a physician of Philadelphia, was a native of England, and came to this country about 1711. As a member of the Assembly, his speeches for the rights of the colony were so acceptable, that he was sometimes carried home on the shoulders of the people. He died January 11th, 1772, aged 88 years. He contributed much for building Christ Church, and the hospital of that church for widows, he endowed with a valuable estate.



## SAMUEL KEIMER.

WHEN Franklin first arrived in Philadelphia, he was recommended, it will be remembered, by the old Mr. William Bradford, to the office of Keimer, then just commencing business, and engaged upon a performance of his own, which he literally composed at the stand, setting up the types as the ideas came to his mind. This was an elegy on the young printer, Aquila Rose, an ingenious young man in the town, secretary to the Assembly, and a pretty poet. The elegy has long since become a great literary curiosity, and it cost some pains to find any reprint of it; but our intention to do justice to the literary associates of Franklin, was at last assisted by a reference to Hazard's Register of Pennsylvania, where was found the woful ballad, reproduced from its original handbill form of the year 1723, after a sleep of more than a hundred years, in 1828. As it is curious as a quaint specimen of printing in the Franklin connection, besides being a picture of the times, it should be mentioned that it was "ornamented with the usual symbols of death,—the head and bones, and hour-glass," and that it was "printed in the High Street," for the price of twopence. The italics and capitals are, it strikes us at this day, somewhat capricious.

Keimer, coming from the Old World, was a character. He had been, Franklin tells us, "one of the French prophets, and could act their enthusiastic agitations," a stock in trade upon which he was disposed to set up in America, as the evangelist of a new religion. Franklin was in the habit of arguing with him on the Socratic method, and was so successful that he gained his respect, and an invitation to join him in the partnership of the new doctrines. What they were, the world has never fully learned. It is only known from the autobiography, that "Keimer wore his beard at full length, because somewhere in the Mosaic law it is said, *Thou shalt not mar the corners of thy beard*. He likewise kept the seventh day Sabbath; and these two points were essential with him." His Socratic friend from Massachusetts, saw the weakness of his associate, and ingeniously proposed, as an addition, absti-

nence from animal food, a trial of which, in a short time, broke down both the man and his system.

Keimer, after a while, left for the West Indies, where we hear of him in 1734, as the editor of the "Barbadoes Gazette," in which capacity he found himself in the society of a very gentlemanly set of people, who sometimes forgot to pay the printer, and somewhat too recklessly ventilating his opinions, was bound over to keep the peace for six months, for publishing a libel.

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## JOHN KEY.

JOHN KEY, "the first born" of our city, of English parentage, was born in 1682, in a cave at Penny-pot Landing, *i. e.*, at the northwest corner of Vine and Water Streets. William Penn was pleased to distinguish the person and the circumstance by the gift of a city lot, the original patent of which is in the possession of Mr. John F. Watson, through the politeness of the late George Vaux, Esq. The tradition of the spot granted was utterly lost to common fame; but this patent shows its location to have been on the south side of Race Street, nearly opposite to Crown Street, say, *vis-a-vis* to Pennington's old sugar-house.

This notable first born lived to a good old age at his home in Chester County, and was accustomed to come occasionally to the city, always walking the streets with an unusually active step, although necessarily wondering at the changing scenes he constantly witnessed—considering that he only died in his eighty-fifth year, as late as the year 1767 (July). When the Hospital was founded, in 1755, he was present, by request, to lay the cornerstone.

It was remarkable that the same year (August 10th, 1767) was also the year of the death of "the first born" child in the Province of English parents, born in 1681, one year before John Key, in a cave by the side of the Delaware River. This venerable man of eighty-six died at Brandywine Hundred, Emanuel Grubb by name. He was active and vigorous to the last, and actually rode to Phila-



delphia and back on horseback, equal to forty miles, only a few months before his death. His habits were temperate, never drinking any ardent spirits.

As those two venerable "first-borns" lived both near Chester, they had means of intercourse; and strong must have been their several emotions, in talking over the years of improvement which they had witnessed down to the year 1767! What a feast they might have afforded to younger minds!

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## REV. PETER KEYSER.

PERHAPS no man was more generally known in the city and county of Philadelphia, during the first quarter of the present century, than the gentleman above named.

Mr. Keyser descended from one of the original settlers of Germantown, Dirk Keyser, who with his son Peter, a boy eleven years of age, emigrated from Amsterdam in the year 1688, via New York; for in the family Bible the following is written by Dirk Keyser: "September, 1688, died, my little daughter, Joanna Keyser, and was buried upon a plantation called Cogenaw, between New York and Philadelphia." Query. Can any one now tell where Cogenaw is?

The family have still in their possession many papers and documents brought from Holland. Among those are marriage certificates, funeral notices, &c., some of which, from their singularity or oddness at the present day, we present to our readers, viz.:—

### CERTIFICATES OF MARRIAGE.

"This is to certify that Dirk Keyser and Elizabeth ter Himpel, upon their desire, after three Sundays having been published, at Amsterdam, in all the churches, on the undermentioned date, in the church at Buicksloot, lawfully and in presence of the Lord's

congregation, are married: declare I, the undersigned secretary, at Buicksloot, the 22d day of November, 1668.

Signed, " B. VREDENHUIS,  
" Secretary."

The following is the certificate of marriage of Pieter Dirk Keyser, who was born at Amsterdam, 25th November, 1676, and accompanied his father to America in 1688:—

"This is to certify that on the 4th September, 1700, I married Margareth Sieplie, aged eighteen years. May the Lord grant us his blessing, and all which will be necessary for us in this world and in the world to come, and we will praise his holy name, now and forever. Amen.

" PIETER DIRK KEYSER,  
" Germantown."

#### INVITATIONS TO FUNERALS.

"On Monday, 5th July, 1655, you are desired to follow to the grave, the deceased youngest son of Dirk Gerritz Keyser, morocco leather manufacturer, brother-in-law to Tobias Govertz, van de Wyngart, in Eland Street, at the Resting Hart, at one o'clock, to come in as near friend to the house. The corpse to be buried in the Wester Church."

"On Sunday, 14th October, 1657, you are desired to follow to the grave Elizabeth von Singhel, wife of Pieter ter Himpel, woollen draper, in the house called ter Himpel, to come in as friend to the house. The corpse to be buried in the South churchyard."

"On Saturday, 27th June, 1676, you are desired to follow to the grave Josntye von Gestel, late wife of Gerrit Dirk Keyser, daughter of Jon von Gestel, in Eland Street, at the Resting Hart, to come as friend in the house. The corpse to be buried in the Leydse churchyard, by desire of Dirk Keyser and wife."

Dirk Keyser died 30th November, 1714, buried at Germantown

Pieter Dirk Keyser died 12th September, 1724, buried at Germantown.



His eldest son, Dirk Keyser, born 26th September, 1701, married, in 1725, to Alice Nice, daughter of William Nice, died January 8th, 1756.

His son, Peter Keyser, born August 18th, 1732, married, 5th May, 1756, Hannah, daughter of William Levering, of Roxborough, and died 10th April, 1818.

His fourth child, Peter Keyser, born 9th November, 1766, is the subject of our present memoir.

He married, in 1790, Catharine, daughter of Garrett Clemens, of Horsham, Montgomery County. He followed the business of tanning and currying with his father in Germantown, until his removal to Philadelphia in April, 1794, when he commenced the lumber business, and, in 1798, formed the partnership of Keyser & Gorgas, said firm continuing at the same place (on the wharf above Callowhill Street) until January, 1845, a period of forty-seven years.

In his early years, before he had attained to manhood, he became a member of the German Baptist or Dunker Church in Germantown, and was a preacher of that Society for more than sixty years.

About 1817 or 1818, those members of that Society or Church residing in Philadelphia, built a house for public worship on Crown Street below Callowhill Street, and many citizens will remember the crowds that assembled there to hear him preach.

He had the most intimate knowledge of the Scriptures both in English and German, and it is doubtful whether any one man could quote or repeat them with more accuracy than he.

It appeared as if he remembered the words, with the chapter and verse, of the entire Bible.

The remark was once made by Doctor Philip F. Mayer, that, if by accident every copy of the Scriptures should be destroyed, their knowledge would not be lost so long as Peter Keyser lived.

In early life he was active and industrious in his business, which he pursued as the means of living, his services in the Church being always and entirely gratuitous.

He had many worthy personal friends, such as Thomas Dobson, Godfrey Haga, and many others, with whom he had frequent intercourse and interchange of opinions.

He was engaged in almost every measure for the good of his fellow man. He was a member and Secretary of the Board of

Health; Inspector and Treasurer of the Prison; member of the Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons; Director and Controller of the Public Schools, when the system was first adopted by the State, and continued until his removal to his estate left him by his father in Germantown.

During his whole business career, he never sued or was sued.

His tall person (six feet three inches high), drab clothes, and broad-brimmed hat, will be remembered by many of the citizens of the present day.

He died in the same house at Germantown in which he was born, 21st May, 1849, aged nearly eighty-three years, and was buried in the German Baptist burial-ground: leaving three sons and three daughters, viz., Elhanan W. Keyser, Nathan L. Keyser, Peter A. Keyser, Mrs. C. S. Longstreth, Mrs. Benjamin Urner, of Cincinnati, and Mrs. M. K. Lynd.

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## ABRAHAM KINTZING.

PROMINENT among those to whom Philadelphia is indebted for the high and honorable character which she bears, stands the name of Abraham Kintzing, long the partner of the late Henry Pratt, under the firm of Pratt & Kintzing. Mr. Kintzing was born in this city about the year 1763; and, at an early age, was placed in the counting-house of the late Tench Coxe (whose biography is described herein). In so highly honorable, intelligent, and extensive a school, those natural abilities, and that force of character which so much distinguished him in after-life, were developed.

Upon arriving at manhood, Mr. Kintzing removed to Winchester, Virginia; but, not finding there sufficient scope for his views, he returned to his native place, and entered into mercantile pursuits; and, soon after, formed the connection with Mr. Pratt.

The extensive foreign business of Pratt & Kintzing carried their names to all parts of the commercial world; and, perhaps, none commanded more respect and confidence.

There have been few before or since possessed of a more thorough

knowledge of commercial law and customs than Mr. Kintzing, which, added to his great experience and unbending integrity, caused him to be sought after as arbiter of differences which arose among business men, to an extent which frequently encroached upon his duties to himself. So great was the confidence reposed in him that frequently the most important cases were submitted to his single decision. An old and respected Friend, who lived in those days, tells us that it was a general saying, "that, if they could only get Abraham Kintzing to act on an arbitration, all would be right."

About the year 1812, desiring to advance the interests of his sons, Mr. Kintzing withdrew from the firm of Pratt & Kintzing; and, after forming connections for his other sons, took his son Benjamin and Francis S. Coxe (the son of his old friend) into partnership, under the firm of Kintzing, Son & Coxe. In a few years, becoming afflicted with the loss of his sight and impaired health, he was compelled to withdraw from active life. Though for many years a great sufferer, his mental powers continued in full vigor until within a few weeks of his decease, and he continued to draw around him the respect and affection of the companions of former days.

Mr. Kintzing was possessed of a fine commanding personal appearance, and united great dignity and suavity with kindness of manner. Public-spirited and liberal, his heart and purse were ever open to the unfortunate or oppressed, or in support of merit. The Friend alluded to relates, as an instance of his kindness of heart, that, on certain days, might be seen numbers of people, generally the wives of the numerous sailors and others in their employ, waiting, to prefer some request or favor, as he would pass along from his old-fashioned residence on Arch Street to their counting-house, then on the wharf, near Race Street, which business hours would not admit of. Numerous charities, long-continued, were only known after his demise. Mr. Kintzing is a rare instance where great force of character had not created some enemies; and, we feel justified in the assertion, that he died beloved by his many friends, and regretted by all.

Mr. Kintzing served for many years, and until his affliction and ill health compelled him to withdraw, as a Director of the Bank of North America, and also of the old Philadelphia Insurance Com-

pany, two of the most prominent institutions of his time. He died in June, 1835, aged seventy-two years.

Mr. Kintzing left four sons and two daughters, only one of whom survives at this time. There are numerous grandchildren occupying a high social position, two of whom have served with distinction in the navy and army.

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### JOHN LEWIS KRIMMEL.

JOHN LEWIS KRIMMEL, a distinguished painter, was drowned while bathing near Germantown, July 15th, 1821, aged thirty-five years. He was President of the Society of American Artists, having resided about ten years in Philadelphia. At the time of his death he was engaged to paint a large historical picture of the landing of William Penn. His genius and amiable manners secured to him respect and esteem while living, and his works of art will be remembered with admiration while a vestige of them remain.

He was born at Ebingen, in the kingdom of Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1787. He came to Philadelphia in 1810, at the solicitation of his brother, who had emigrated previously, and was engaged in commerce. John soon left the counting-house for the pencil, beginning with portraits, as usual with the majority of artists. A print of Wilkie's "Blind Fiddler" seems to have determined his choice for humorous subjects. "The Pepper-Pot Woman," "The Cut Finger," "Blindman's Buff," and many similar subjects, are well known. Some of these were exhibited the year after his arrival. The late Alexander Lawson had one of his pictures, "Perry's Victory," and esteemed him very highly, both as an artist and as a man of worth.

He resided with his brother, George Frederick Krimmel, for a number of years, in Philadelphia. He was a bachelor, but was engaged to be married at the time of his death. He painted "The Election Day," "The Fourth of July at Old Centre Square," "Going to and Returning from Boarding School," "The Country Wedding," "A Family Group," and several other excellent pieces.

His industry, and love of the art of painting, there can be no doubt, would have given him a high position had he lived. He was, there can be no question, a great genius. His works, if collected, would furnish Philadelphia scenes and Philadelphia characters that are now historical.

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### ADAM KUHN, M.D.

ADAM KUHN, a physician, was born at Germantown, November 17th, 1741, old style. His father came from Swabia, and was a useful physician, and an elder of the Lutheran Church. In 1761, he proceeded to Europe, and studied at Upsal, under Linnæus, and was by him highly esteemed. After visiting various countries of Europe, he returned to this country in January, 1768; and, in May, commenced his first course in botany. For twenty-two years he attended the Pennsylvania Hospital. In 1789, he was appointed Professor of Medicine in the University, but resigned in 1797. After practising physic about fifty years, he died, July 5th, 1817, aged seventy-five years. He left two sons, Hartman and Charles, the latter now deceased.

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### DR. RÉNÉ LA ROCHE.

BY J. G. NANCREDE, M.D.

DIED, on the 6th June, 1819, in the sixty-fifth year of his age, René La Roche, M.D., Member of the Royal Society of Medicine of Madrid, Honorary Member of the Medical Society of New Orleans, &c., formerly of the Island of St. Domingo, and for many years a highly respected practitioner of this city.

Réné La Roche was born of respectable parents, in the Island of St. Domingo, in the year 1755. According to the customs of



the wealthy inhabitants of the country, he was sent at an early period to France, to receive a collegiate education. Having completed his classical studies, he felt desirous of becoming a disciple of Hippocrates, and persevering in his intention, he soon inscribed his name among the students of the then celebrated University of Montpellier. As a medical school, Montpellier at that period had no rival, except that of Edinburgh, whether by the number of its students, or by the talents and acknowledged fame of its professors. Lamure, Barthez, Leroy, Vigoroux, Broussonat, &c., were his teachers; and from these fathers of the art, he received, with his medical instruction, that persevering spirit of observation, which distinguished him through life. Under these masters, he could not fail becoming ardently attached to the profession of his choice; and after going through the usual trials with credit to himself, he received his diploma in 1779.

The zeal and ambition so natural to his age, urged him to commence the practice of his profession as soon as he returned from Europe, in 1780. Possessed of solid instruction, well grounded in the principles of the science of medicine, and endowed with a strong and reflecting mind, his claims to public patronage were not overlooked; an extensive circle of patients soon bestowed upon the youthful practitioner their full confidence, and in the course of a few years, Fortune, often blind, but sometimes clear-sighted, had showered upon him her choicest favors; but alas! how futile are her gifts, how delusive her pleasures. The monster Revolution showed its hydra head in this favored and remote spot, and war, havoc, and ruin desolated another Eden,—a land where Happiness had fixed her abode.

Having escaped the fury of these men of blood, Dr. La Roche, with many of his acquaintances, reached the friendly shores of this country in 1793, where they experienced that liberal hospitality which distinguishes the American character. The fatal epidemic which at that time desolated this continent, soon brought into notice the French physicians, and the success that attended their mode of treatment justified the attention of the inhabitants of Philadelphia. And without detracting from the high claims of the practising physicians of that period, we may be allowed to state, that their colleagues from St. Domingo were equally fortunate in

the treatment of the yellow fever. Let it not be urged that they derived from a previous acquaintance with the disease the experience necessary to counteract its effects, for we know from the most unequivocal and honorable testimony, that until they had reached the American continent, they were utter strangers to this devastating form of disease. It would, however, savor of partiality were we not to concede that the bilious remittent form of fever which prevails so often in the West Indies, had furnished them with results by which they were guided in the treatment of our yellow fever; and how judiciously, can be attested by numerous surviving and grateful individuals.

From that period our revered friend became a resident of this city, and as it continued to be the place of refuge of many of his countrymen, he soon found himself fully employed in his profession. Among the victims of that unhappy period, his philanthropy and his benevolence found ample scope for their exertion. Nor were his useful talents confined to that very respectable portion of our inhabitants. During twenty-seven years of laborious practice, he was often called to visit American as well as French families; and though a stranger to the language as well as to the habits of the former, he gained their confidence and commanded their respect.

Dr. La Roche had always enjoyed a feeble state of health, which the labors of his profession by no means contributed to fortify. Perhaps, also, the vicissitudes of our climate had aggravated it; for he was subject during the latter years of his life to attacks of lumbago, which, though not very severe, required much care and attention. He was just recovering from one of these attacks, and had been enabled for a few days to walk out, when he was thrown by accident in the street, on the 2d June, 1819, and received a severe contusion on the parietal bone. Conveyed senseless to his house, he never recovered to their full extent the exercise of his faculties; but after various gleams of returning reason, and of proportionate hope to the crowd of friends that thronged his door, closed, on the fourth day of the accident, his valuable life.

In the various relations of man, of husband, and of father, no one fulfilled his duties with more kindness. The expression of his feelings, under a reserved and at times a pensive deportment,

conveyed to strangers, perhaps, an appearance of insensibility; but those who knew him will bear testimony to the warmth as well as to the uniformity of his attachments. The mildness of his disposition, his forbearance, his constant serenity of mind, and his passibleness, were, perhaps, unexampled. As a physician, his humanity and disinterestedness knew no bounds.

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### BENJAMIN H. LATROBE.

BENJAMIN H. LATROBE is entitled, on account of his works as an architect and civil engineer in Philadelphia, to a notice in a collection like the present. His father was the Rev. Benjamin Latrobe, an English Moravian clergyman of Huguenot descent. His mother was Anna Margaret Antes, a Pennsylvanian, who had been sent by her Moravian parents to Europe to be educated at one of the establishments of "The United Brethren," where Mr. Latrobe met with and married her. They had three sons, Christian Ignatius, prominent in the Moravian Church, distinguished for his compositions in sacred music, and known to the literary world as the author of "Travels in Africa." Frederick, a physician, who settled in Livonia, and Benjamin Henry, the subject of the present notice, who was born in Yorkshire, England, on the 1st May, 1767. His early education was most carefully attended to by his father, a man eminent for his sacred attainments and admirable life, and at twelve years of age he was sent to a Moravian Seminary in Saxony, where he remained until prepared to enter the University of Leipsic, where he completed his education. In 1785, he tried, along with some friends of his own age, a campaign in the Prussian service. It was a wild and dangerous frolic. He was twice in severe actions, and in the last was grievously wounded. Resigning his cornetcy of hussars on his recovery, he made the tour of Europe, and returned to England in 1786. Soon afterwards his father died.

It was now necessary to adopt a profession, and his love of art, and rare faculties as a draughtsman, his love of natural science and of mathematical investigation, determined him. In 1787, he

entered the office of Mr. Cockerell, then one of the first architects in London. His probation here was brief. His acquirements on all subjects, extraordinary for his years, gave him great advantages in his architectural studies, and leaving Mr. Cockerell, in 1788, he soon found himself fully occupied, and was made, in the following year, Surveyor of the Public Offices of the City of London.

In 1790, Mr. Latrobe married Miss Lellon, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Lellon, and sister of the distinguished legal writer of that name. He was twenty-three years old when he married, and his professional success had been rapid and indeed extraordinary.

By Miss Lellon, Mr. Latrobe had two children, a son and a daughter. In 1793, she died. Her death seems to have overwhelmed him. The places and the occupations with which she was associated were distasteful to him; and, after a season, influenced by the same spirit that had carried him into the Prussian army, he sought relief in change of scene, and came to America. What was then going on in France had its effect upon him too. He was a thorough republican in all his notions. America was a new field. It was a new world, not physically only, but politically. Independent of the immediate cause of his seeking this country, it was eminently attractive to a person of Mr. Latrobe's character and views. He had many inducements to remain in England. He was offered the surveyorship of the Crown, at a salary of £1000 sterling,—a larger sum in those than in these days; lucrative private engagements were proposed. But declining all, he left England on the 29th November, 1795, and landed at Norfolk on the 20th March, 1796.

In March, 1798, Mr. Latrobe paid a short visit to Philadelphia. One day at the table of the President of the Bank of Pennsylvania, the conversation turned upon a new banking-house, and with pen and ink Mr. Latrobe made rapidly, at the moment, a sketch of one, more in jest than in earnest. His surprise was great when he was informed after his return to Richmond, that this design was adopted, and he was urged to prepare the drawings from which it might be executed. The bank was built. In its day it was the architectural jewel of the whole country. It was designed, too, from memory of the orders that it illustrated. In those times, the archi-



tect had no such aids as are now to be found at every corner, in the shape of treatises and models.

The Bank of Pennsylvania made Mr. Latrobe a Philadelphian; and he took up his residence in this city in the winter of 1798-9. His next work here was the Water-works to supply the city with water from the Schuylkill. There are those still living who recollect the noble engine-house of white marble occupying what is now the centre of Penn Square. It was the first undertaking of the kind in America. Singularly, it encountered the most violent opposition. L'Enfant, a Frenchman, had designed a house for Robert Morris, which he had not been able to get much above the foundation. His failure brought the profession of architecture into contempt, from which the fact, that L'Enfant had laid out the city of Washington, could not rescue it. Mr. Latrobe's French name put him in men's minds on a par with L'Enfant, and he was familiarly spoken of as "the damned Frenchman," who was to ruin the city. Everything that could be thought of to annoy him was done. His vindication was his success. After the pipes were laid, the hydrant cocks were left open, and setting the ponderous machinery in motion himself at midnight, Mr. Latrobe had the satisfaction, the next morning, of hearing those who had been the bitterest in their denunciations, the loudest in their praise, as they saw the streams of Schuylkill water flowing through the streets.

In 1800, on the 1st of May, Mr. Latrobe married Mary, the only daughter of Isaac Hazlehurst, an eminent merchant of Philadelphia. This attached him still closer to his new home; and he continued there the practice of his profession,—designing private edifices principally. In 1803, he was called to Washington, and employed by Mr. Jefferson to complete the Capitol. This, however, did not involve a change of residence, and he continued to reside alternately in Philadelphia and Delaware, until 1807, when he took up his permanent abode in what was then most commonly styled the Federal City.

As early as 1809, a proposition was made to him to embark with Fulton in the introduction of steamboats on the Western waters. Nicholas I. Roosevelt, Mr. Latrobe's son-in-law, by his marriage with his daughter by his first wife, had built the Orleans, the first steamboat that ever floated beyond the mountains; and Livingston,



a brother-in-law of Fulton, was engaged in building the Vesuvius and Ætna, when Mr. Latrobe, influenced in part by the prospect of being able to supply the engine for the Water-works from Pittsburg, moved to that place with his family, and commenced the construction of the Buffalo, and Buffalo Calf, the latter being a tow-boat, in 1812. The visit to Pittsburg was an unfortunate one. The failure of the Company whose agent he was, prevented the completion, by him, of the Buffalo, and he was wholly disappointed in his expectation of being able to procure in Pittsburg, the engine for New Orleans. The peace with Great Britain found him still at Pittsburg, a disappointed and desponding man; but the war had destroyed the Capitol, and in 1815, he was called by Mr. Madison to rebuild it. This made him again a resident in Washington. The British had left but the outer walls of the edifice, and the vaulted apartments that had defied their combustibles. The north wing of Dr. Thornton, especially, was a mere shell. The entire design, preserving however the exterior character, was now recast, and the plan of the building as finished, was perfected by Mr. Latrobe. For three years he devoted himself to the restoration of the public buildings at the seat of Government; and the Hall of Representatives, the Senate Chamber, the Supreme Court-room, began to assume their present proportions. But the direction of the public buildings, which had been under charge of a Board of Commissioners, was presently placed in the hands of a single individual, and Mr. Latrobe found himself under a control in regard to matters of professional knowledge and taste, which he found it difficult to submit to. He at last saw that he must either resign his situation, or hold it on terms incompatible with his sense of personal dignity, or professional responsibility. He did not hesitate, painful to him as it was, to leave the creations of his talent and skill to be executed by others; and he finally quitted the service of the United States, in 1817, and removed to Baltimore, where the Cathedral and the Baltimore Exchange were then being built from his designs. The Cathedral had been begun in 1805, and the Exchange in 1817. While in Baltimore, he revived the scheme of supplying New Orleans with water, and having had the engines built in Maryland, he paid a visit to Louisiana in 1819, to make arrangements for their erection. His eldest son, who

had gone there in 1810, had died of yellow fever in 1817, leaving the reputation of an able architect, an accomplished gentleman, and a gallant soldier.\* His father went to supply his place. His prospects now were so encouraging, that he returned to Baltimore for his family, and removing with them to New Orleans, pushed forward the Water-works with great energy, and brought them so near completion, that he commenced the ditch that was to connect the pumps with the Mississippi. This passed through the levee, at the lowest stage of the river, in September, 1810. Mr. Latrobe, relying upon his having had the yellow fever in the preceding year as a sufficient acclimation, superintended the excavation in person; the same disease again attacked him, and in a few days his body was placed beside his son's. Thus died, at the age of fifty-three, in the prime of his life, a most able architect and estimable man; one, too, of the rarest and most extraordinary endowments. He was a Latin, Greek, and Hebrew scholar. He spoke with the facility of a native, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, and German. He was a musician of no common merit. His water-color drawings, in landscape, were unequalled in his day. He was a thorough botanist and entomologist, geologist and mineralogist; and all this, too, in addition to a most profound knowledge of his profession. As a writer, few excelled in easy gracefulness, or, where it was required, terseness and clearness of diction; and, what is remarkable, he wrote the languages which he spoke, with almost the same facility as his own. His imagination was brilliant, and his wit rare.

Mr. Latrobe may be called the father of architecture in the United States. He was the first of the profession, thoroughly educated and accomplished, that abode here. To his two pupils, Mills and Strickland, the country has been greatly indebted. Walter, the pupil of Strickland, is now completing the Capitol in the spirit of the subject of this brief memoir, with the genius of a poet, and the skill of a great architect.

\* He distinguished himself greatly in the battle of the 23d of December, 1814.

## ALEXANDER LAWSON.

MR. LAWSON was born at Lanark, Scotland, in 1773. At the age of sixteen he removed to Manchester. He early developed a taste for his future pursuits, commencing, after filling his copy-books with sketches, by engraving on smooth pennies with the point of a knife. He next employed a blacksmith to make him a graver from his description of the tool, and amused himself, as he drank his ale of an evening, in ornamenting the pewter tankard. Thirty-six years after his removal to the United States, he heard a traveller speak of having been shown this tankard by the innkeeper of the house he then frequented. At the age of twenty he emigrated to America, and established himself in Philadelphia, where some of his descendants did reside. His plates for Alexander Wilson, the ornithologist, form his chief work.

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## BENJAMIN LAY.

BENJAMIN LAY was a benevolent Quaker, of great singularities, a native of England, and brought up to the sea. About the year 1710 he settled in Barbadoes. Bearing his open testimony in all companies against the conduct of the owners of slaves, he became so obnoxious to the inhabitants that he left the island in disgust, and settled in Pennsylvania. He fixed his residence at Abington, ten miles from Philadelphia. On his arrival, he found many Quakers who kept slaves; he remonstrated against the practice with zeal, both in public and private. To express his indignation at the practice of slave-keeping he once carried a bladder, filled with blood, into a public meeting, and, in the presence of the whole congregation, thrust a sword into it, which he had concealed under his coat, exclaiming, "Thus shall God shed the blood of those persons who enslave their fellow-creatures." Calling upon a friend

in Philadelphia, he was asked to sit down to breakfast; he first inquired, "Dost thou keep slaves in thy house?" On being answered in the affirmative, he said, "'Then I will not partake with thee of the fruits of thy unrighteousness.'" After an ineffectual attempt to convince a farmer and his wife in Chester County of the iniquity of keeping slaves, he seized their only child, a little girl of three years of age, under the pretence of carrying her away; and, when the cries of the child and his singular expedient alarmed them, he said, "You see and feel now a little of the distress which you occasion by the inhuman practice of slave-keeping." In 1737, he wrote a treatise, entitled, "All Slave-keepers, that keep the innocent in bondage, Apostates." It was printed by Dr. Franklin, who told the author, when the manuscript was brought to him, that it was deficient in arrangement. "It is no matter," said Mr. Lay, "print any part thou pleassest first." This worthy Quaker died at his house in Abington in 1760, aged seventy-nine years. He was temperate in his diet, living chiefly upon vegetables, and his drink was pure water. When tea was introduced into Pennsylvania, his wife brought home a small quantity, with a set of cups and saucers. In his zeal he seized them, and, carrying them back to the city, he scattered the tea from the balcony of the court-house, in the presence of a multitude of inspectors, and broke to pieces the instruments of luxury, delivering, at the same time, a striking lecture upon the folly of introducing a pernicious herb in the place of a wholesome diet of the country.\* He often visited schools, carrying a basket of religious books with him, and distributing them as prizes among the scholars, imparting also frequently some advice and instruction. So much was he the enemy of idleness that, when the inclemency of the weather confined him to his house, or his mind was wearied with reading, he used to spend his time in spinning. All his clothes were manufactured by himself. Though kind to the poor, he had no pity on common beggars, who, he said, if able to go abroad to beg, were able also to earn fourpence a day, and this sum was sufficient to keep any person above want or dependence in this country. He once attempted to imitate our Saviour, by fasting forty days; but he was obliged to desist

\* Pennsylvania Gazette, March 28th, 1742.



from the attempt. His weaknesses and eccentricities disappear before the splendor of his humanity and benevolence. His bold, determined, and uniform reprehension of the practice of slavery, in defiance of public opinion, does him the highest honor. The turbulence and severity of his temper were necessary at the time in which he lived; and the work which he began was completed by the meek and gentle Anthony Benezet.

There was a time when the name of this celebrated Christian philosopher was familiar to every man, woman, and to nearly every child, in Pennsylvania. His size, which was not much above four feet; his dress, which was always the same, consisting of light-colored, plain clothes, a white hat, and half-boots; his milk-white beard, which hung upon his breast; and, above all, his peculiar principles and conduct, rendered him to many an object of admiration, and, to all, the subject of conversation.

He possessed a good deal of wit, and was quick at repartee. A citizen of Philadelphia, who knew his peculiarities, once met him in a crowd at a funeral in Germantown; being desirous of entering into a conversation with him that should divert the company, the citizen accosted him with the most respectful ceremony, and declared himself to be "his most humble servant." "Art thou my servant?" said Mr. Lay. "Yes, I am," said the citizen. "Then," said Mr. Lay (holding up his foot towards him), "clean this shoe." This unexpected reply turned the laugh upon the citizen. Being desirous of recovering himself in the opinion of the company, he asked him to instruct him in the way to heaven. "Dost thou indeed wish to be taught?" said Mr. Lay. "I do!" said the citizen. "Then," said Mr. Lay, "do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with thy God."

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## THOMAS LEAMING.

THOMAS LEAMING, a gentleman distinguished for his devotion to the cause of American independence, was born on the 20th of August, 1748. Could a history be given of the sacrifices and gallantry of the gentlemen of Philadelphia of that day, we should realize how much the country was indebted for its success in the



Revolution to the public spirit of private citizens. Mr. Leaming richly deserved the name of a patriot. He rendered good service to his country as a lawyer, as a soldier, and as a merchant.

As a lawyer, he assisted in framing a rebel constitution for a rebel State, containing a declaration of independence for which the guerdon would have been imprisonment or death, had not the rebellion succeeded. As a soldier, he served honorably through several campaigns, having first energetically devoted himself to raising and training a band of recruits at the outbreak of the war. As a merchant, he loaned to a discredited Government large sums of money; from his own private store assisted in supplying the army with provisions in its direst need, and expended a considerable portion of his fortune in the fitting out of privateers and the importation of necessaries of war. Mr. Leaming was descended from an old and respectable English family, a portion of whom came to this country about the time of the restoration of Charles II. He was educated at the University of Pennsylvania, studied law with Mr. John Dickinson, the author of the celebrated "Farmers' Letters," and continued in practice until 1776. Possessing a large landed estate in New Jersey, upon which he resided a portion of the year, he was elected a member of the Convention which met on the 10th of June, 1776, to frame a constitution for that State, and declare its independence.

The history of that Convention is well known. It has been said in regard to it, that "At this era, every deputy who voted for the adoption of this Constitution, did so with a halter round his neck, and risked life, reputation, and property for the cause of his country. The scene was too trying for many good men to bear, as the enemy had just landed a large army on Staten Island, and the Americans had very few, if any, regular troops in the field. It was under such circumstances that the Convention of New Jersey passed this Constitution, annulling all connection with the mother country, declaring themselves free, and requesting Congress, then in session in Philadelphia, to declare the independence of the United States. They said, 'We had better risk all, and seek refuge in the wilderness among savages, than submit to Great Britain.'"

This Constitution was passed on July 2d, 1776, and the gentle-

men composing that Convention had the honor of declaring the independence of New Jersey two days before the Declaration of Independence by Congress.

Had New Jersey done such honor to the deed as it deserves, the sculptor's hand would long since have commemorated this the most important act in the history of the State.

Throughout the whole exciting session of this Convention, Mr. Leaming's votes and influence were invariably given to the patriot cause. He declined accepting the "Protection" offered by the British to those who would not bear arms against them, although his property thus became liable to confiscation, and at the close of the Convention returned to Philadelphia to prepare for the impending conflict. As soon as the war was determined upon, he joined the corps then raising by Captain, afterwards Governor Mifflin.

By close attention he obtained a knowledge of military tactics and exercises, and then repaired to New Jersey, to arouse the inhabitants in the neighborhood of his estates. He drew up a paper, binding the signers to stand by their country, and succeeded in obtaining the signature of every able-bodied man in the county but one. Having thus secured a general adherence to the cause from the inhabitants, he next organized a battalion of men, and devoted his time to instructing them in military exercises. A resolution was passed by Congress, directing that the necessary ammunition be furnished to Mr. Leaming for this corps, and after seeing them properly equipped and officered, he resigned his own command, and again returned to Philadelphia, to join the First City Troop of Light Horse, commanded by Captain Samuel Morris, to which he had been previously elected. At this time, from various causes, the Troop was reduced from forty or fifty to about a dozen men, besides officers; but in spite of the paucity of their numbers, they hastened to join General Washington, and reached him, in the rear of his broken and flying army, in the retreat through New Jersey. Cornwallis was then at Kingston with ten thousand men, and shortly after, the Americans were driven over the Delaware.

The conduct of this remnant of the Troop, in joining the army at this time, was meritorious. It was joining a forlorn hope. Mr. Wilson, in his "History of the Revolution," thus speaks of the relative position of the two forces:—

“The retreat through the Jerseys to the crossing of the Delaware was the most disastrous period of the war. A scanty, destitute, desponding, and diminished force, scarcely amounting to three thousand men at the highest, was pushed by a triumphant, well-disciplined, and abundantly supplied army of thirty thousand. As the British advanced, the Americans retreated towards the Delaware, occasionally making a stand to show a front to the enemy and retard his advance. It frequently happened that, as the rear of the Americans left a village on one side, the advance guard of the British entered it at the other. To add to the embarrassments of the American General, an insurrection broke out in Monmouth County, which required the aid of a part of his troops to repress it. The only encouraging circumstance in the distressing time was the arrival of some reinforcements from Philadelphia, with which he kept the British in check for a short time.”

Being composed of gentlemen, well mounted and armed at their own expense, this little Troop acted as a sort of body-guard to Washington. They were constantly employed by him, and were of efficient service in several battles, particularly at Trenton and Princeton.

At the battle of Trenton, a portion of the Troop distinguished themselves by capturing a detachment of the British greatly exceeding their own force in numbers. They remained with Washington through the campaign of 1776, and a portion of that of 1777, until the formation of the Continental Troops of Regular Horse, when he permitted them to return to Philadelphia, first offering to each member of the Troop a commission in the regular army as a reward for their gallantry. Upon their leaving the camp, General Washington also addressed to them the following letter:—

“The Philadelphia Troop of Light Horse, under the command of Captain Morris, having performed their tour of duty, are discharged for the present. I take this opportunity of returning my most sincere thanks to the Captain and to the gentlemen who compose the Troop, for the many essential services which they have rendered to their country, and to me personally, during the course of this severe campaign. Though composed of gentlemen of fortune, they have shown a noble example of discipline and subordi-

nation; and, in several actions, have shown a spirit of bravery, which will ever do honor to them, and will be gratefully remembered by me.

“Given at Headquarters, at Morristown, this 23d January, 1777.

“GO. WASHINGTON.”

His private affairs requiring his attention, Mr. Leaming declined to accept the commission offered him, and returned home with the majority of his companions. On the 4th of October, 1777, he was again engaged, with some others of the Troop, in the battle of Germantown. In this night attack, a piece of white paper was fastened in the cap of each member of the Troop, that they might be distinguished from others in the darkness. The equipments of our City Troop at that time were not as uniform as now, the difficulty of procuring suitable weapons being very great. The sword which Mr. Leaming carried, and which is still in possession of his family, instead of being a horseman's sabre, was a large Spanish cut-and-thrust sword, basket hilted, and exceedingly heavy. Mr. Leaming remained in the Troop until his death, never missing a tour of duty when called upon. His eldest son, Mr. Thomas F. Leaming, was afterwards an officer in this Troop for several years, and served in it in the War of 1812.

The war having closed the courts, Mr. Leaming could not resume his practice as a lawyer, and entered into business as merchant. As the capitalist of the house of A. Bunner & Co. he was extensively engaged in mercantile transactions during the whole time Continental money was in circulation, to which he gave full credit until it was dishonored by Congress, being of opinion that the fate of the war depended much on its acceptance as currency.

In doing thus he suffered greatly, as he had invested largely in business, the public being the only gainer by his losses. Notwithstanding this, the house persisted in importing large quantities of ammunition and other necessities of war; and, at the time of the revolt, when the Government had neither money nor credit wherewith to supply the wants of the army, generously came forward and furnished, from their own private store, a large quantity of such things as were needed.



These provisions were destined for their own privateers, and they were obliged to renew their supplies by buying for cash at exorbitant war prices.

But they were not alone in this liberal action. The conduct of the Philadelphia merchants then, as a body, is deserving of the highest praise. At this, the darkest period of the Revolution, when the army, broken and dispirited by defeat, and needing the common necessities of life, turned hopelessly for succor to a bankrupt Government, when the fate of the nation was hanging by a thread, and the most sanguine despaired of success, the sum of two hundred and sixty thousand pounds was subscribed by these merchants and given to the country in its hour of need. The welcome assistance seemed to turn the tide of war. The army, which had been on the point of disbanding, encouraged by renewed supplies, once more turned manfully to the work, and success soon crowned their efforts. This list was headed by Robert Morris and Blair McClennaghan, who subscribed ten thousand pounds each. The next largest subscription was by A. Bunner & Co. for six thousand pounds.

For the purpose of assisting the country, as well as their private fortunes, many merchants at this time also engaged in privateering, and probably none more largely than this house of A. Bunner & Co.

One of the privateers which Mr. Leaming had had built, the schooner Mars, of fourteen guns, commanded by Captain Yelverton Taylor, succeeded in capturing, in a short time, three of the enemy's vessels, containing about five hundred English and Hessian soldiers.

Various other prizes were also captured by the vessels belonging to this firm, and many prisoners taken and exchanged. In a letter to Governor Patterson, written in 1785, Mr. Leaming states that, during the war, these vessels had captured fifty prizes and over one thousand prisoners, for whom American prisoners had been exchanged. Certainly a valuable assistance to the cause for one firm to render.

Mr. Leaming died in the yellow fever of 1797, respected and regretted. His history is chiefly that of a private citizen, but his memory is deservedly cherished in connection with the Revolution he so ardently assisted.



## WILLIAM LEHMAN.

BY THOMAS I. WHARTON.

MR. LEHMAN was born in Philadelphia, on the 14th of September, 1779; and was descended from Saxon stock.

The ancestors of William Lehman, however, were men of some eminence and deserved distinction, abroad and at home. John George Lehman, from whom he was descended in the fourth generation, was Farmer-General of the Revenues and Lands of the Manor of Tribigen, in the Electorate of Saxony. His son, Philip Theodore, a man of letters and learning, emigrated to this country, and became one of the secretaries of William Penn; and in that capacity, wrote the celebrated letter to the Indians of Canada, dated the 23d of June, 1692, the original of which is framed and hung up in the Capitol at Harrisburg. Christian, the grandfather of our William Lehman, seems to have been a man of considerable accomplishments, in reference to the time and place in which he flourished. He was conversant with the Latin, Greek, Hebrew, German, and English languages, and cultivated astronomy and the higher mathematics, with remarkable success. He corresponded with Rittenhouse, the celebrated astronomer, descended, like himself, from a German stock; and whose letters to him are still preserved among the family papers. Having a sufficient fortune, he was able to devote his time and thoughts to the pursuits of science and literature; happier, doubtless, in his simple and sequestered life, than if it had been passed in the worship of Mammon or the struggle and glitter of politics.

His grandson, William Lehman, inherited his literary tastes; and was carefully and religiously educated by his father, who is said to have been a man of earnest piety and exact morals. Having passed with credit through the University of Pennsylvania, he attended the medical lectures, and is said to have reached the degree, and certainly bore the title, of Doctor of Medicine. The condition of his bodily health compelled him to forego the practice

of the healing art, if he had at any time the intention of engaging in it as a profession. His father left him a moderate fortune, which he greatly augmented by his skilful and industrious application to the business of a druggist. Having or making ample leisure, notwithstanding a regular and constant application to that business, he continued all his life a hard student, and a constant and universal reader; and mindful of the old axiom, "*Studium sine calamos somnum.*" He was a proficient in the Latin, French, and German languages; the two latter of which he spoke with fluency. He visited Europe three times; and his notes of travel, some of which I have seen, bear evidence of his inquiring mind and just observation.

Electd to the Legislature of this Commonwealth in the year 1814, he continued, by annual elections, to represent the city of Philadelphia during the long period of fifteen years. He died at Harrisburg, on the 29th day of March, 1829, in the fiftieth year of his age.

In the testament of William Lehman, which is dated the 26th of July, A.D. 1827, is contained the following passage: "I give and bequeath to the Athenæum of Philadelphia, the sum of ten thousand dollars, for the construction of a suitable building." A noble legacy.

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## THOMAS LEIPER.

HISTORY may be written in the biographies of two classes of men: those whom the times make, and those who make their own times. To this latter rarer class belonged Thomas Leiper.

Mr. Leiper came to Philadelphia from Virginia, but he was a native of Scotland, having left his home an orphan boy rather than submit to the dictation of an elder brother, who inherited the limited patrimonial estate of the family. He belonged to the same set or "Scotch faction" as the lamented Mercer, by whose side he was when the General was shot down at Princeton; and he naturally favored the nomination of Colonel Innes to the command of the Continental forces. But, after the appointment was con-

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ferred on Washington, that great man could not boast through all the army a more sincere and zealous, or more unwavering friend. Mr. Leiper was one of the first men in Pennsylvania to advocate a rupture with the mother country. While the Declaration of Independence was still only heard of in whispers, Leiper had raised a fund for open resistance to the Crown. It was also his fortune to be one of the last to lay down his arms. As Treasurer of the First Troop he bore the last subsidies of the French to the Americans at Yorktown.

Mr. Leiper was best known in Philadelphia from his prominent position as a leader of the Democratic Party. It was a rule with him not to accept offices of pay or profit; but as Presidential Elector, Director of the Banks of Pennsylvania and the United States, Commissioner for the Defence of the City, in the last War, &c. &c., and as the presiding officer in ordinary of the Democratic town-meetings and festival celebrations, his name is of frequent occurrence in the newspapers of the day. He was Major of the Horse of the Legion raised to oppose the "Black Cockade" forces of the friends of Mr. Adams's administration, and, it was said, recruited and equipped the first company of troopers at his own expense. He was at all times of his life a liberal giver. His name appears upon the list of those who gave £5000 to the North America Bank Fund in the darkest hour of the Revolutionary struggle. He subscribed as much as \$100,000 to the stock of various turnpikes and canals in Pennsylvania when he could hardly hope for a return, and he was an example to those who would be esteemed the friends of internal improvements in our own day.

Mr. Leiper was, in a word, a model citizen; and it would have been a pleasure to the writer of the present memoir to do his memory justice. But an application for materials towards framing a history of his life has not been met in the proper spirit. The following notice of his death is the leading article of "The Aurora" for July 8th, 1825, at that time edited by Mr. John Norval, afterwards United States Senator from Michigan.

"With the deepest feelings of regret, we have this day to announce the death of the Revolutionary soldier and patriot, the venerable Thomas Leiper, of this city, in the eightieth year of his age. Few men have ever lived a more patriotic, useful, and honor-



able life than the deceased. For singleness of heart, integrity of purpose and conduct, devotion to the cause of liberty and of his country, he was unsurpassed. For upwards of fifty years he enjoyed the unbounded confidence of his fellow-citizens who knew him intimately and thoroughly. Without ever seeking, he was elected and appointed to many offices of trust and distinction, from none of which, however, did he derive profit or emolument. He was an ornament to the city of Philadelphia, the pride of Pennsylvania, and advantageously and honorably known to the whole American Union. We but unite with the community at large in the expression of the warmest sympathies with the relations and immediate friends of the illustrious deceased, for the irreparable loss which to them and to the State his death has produced. Full of years and full of honors, he has descended to the tomb amidst the universal regrets, and with the universal veneration of the thousands who knew and esteemed his private virtues, his public worth, his nobly patriotic life."

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## ELIZA LESLIE.

THE death of Eliza Leslie, the authoress, is announced as having taken place at Gloucester City, New Jersey, where she latterly had resided. She was born on November 15, 1787, and consequently had completed the "threescore years and ten," mentioned by the Psalmist as the natural term of human existence.

Miss Leslie was a native of Philadelphia. Her family were Scottish, as the name implies, and emigrated to this country in 1745. Her father, a watchmaker by profession, was a good mathematician, and intimately acquainted with Franklin and Jefferson. One of her brothers is Charles R. Leslie, R. A., of England, author as well as artist. Another is Major Thomas J. Leslie, U. S. A.

Her first attempts at writing were in verse, made almost before she had got "into her teens," and soon estimated by her so lightly that she consigned all of them to the flames. Not until she had reached the mature age of forty, did she achieve the honor of producing a real, downright printed book. That was in 1827, and

the work is called "Seventy-five Receipts for Pastry, Cakes, and Sweetmeats." It was plain, practical, and so successful that its publisher encouraged her to write a volume of juvenile stories. She published many such books, favorite reading of children to this day, and produced "The American Girls' Book," in 1831, which confessedly remains at the head of its class.

Nor did she write alone for juveniles. She composed numerous magazine stories for "children of a larger growth." Among the most popular of these was a prize-tale, entitled "Mrs. Washington Potts" (literally a story of *china*), written for the Lady's Book. Her magazine papers, collected as "Pencil Sketches," have been very popular. Some more novelettes she published in pamphlet form. Her *forte* lay in the composition of short stories—just as her brother, the artist, excels in cabinet paintings. She never tried a regular novel—the nearest approach to it were volumes called "Amelia, or a Young Lady's Vicissitudes," "Althea Vernon," and "Henrietta Harrison," neither of which is first-rate. She was editor of "The Gift," an annual of high standing at one time.

Following up her first publication, Miss Leslie produced several other volumes on Cookery and Housekeeping, which have had a very great sale, and continue popular, because they are useful. Her last work, we believe, appeared in 1853, and is called "The Behavior Book," full of practical truth and subdued humor.

Miss Leslie's rank in the world of letters has been determined long since, and favorably. She had not what is called genius; but common sense, tact, good taste, quiet humor. A keen, and almost satirical sense of the ridiculous, some knowledge of the world, close observation, and keen perception of character, are the combined elements of her writing. She was essentially a Philadelphian, and has occupied, for many years, the first place among our local female writers.

## MORDECAI LEWIS.

AMONG the merchants who have done credit to Philadelphia, by elevating the standard of commercial pursuits at home and abroad, gaining for themselves honor and success in life, and who have left behind them a good Christian character, may be recorded the name of Mordecai Lewis.

He was born in Philadelphia on the 21st of September, 1748, and in every relation of a citizen was intimately associated with his native city.

His paternal ancestor, William Lewis, removed from Glamorganshire, South Wales, to the Province of Pennsylvania in 1686, and purchased a tract of land in Newton Township, Chester County, about twelve miles west of Philadelphia, where he resided until his death, in 1707.

Evan Lewis, one of his four sons, retained the homestead until his death, which occurred in 1734. He was a man of considerable importance, and as a prominent member of the Society of Friends, was for a number of years the representative from his own meeting (Newtown), to the Yearly Meeting held at Philadelphia. Between the years 1706 and 1719, he was several times elected from Chester County a member of the Provincial Assembly, in which capacity he was ordered, as one of a committee of three, to prepare and report a bill directing an affirmation to "such as cannot for conscience' sake take an oath." Jonathan, the younger of Evan's two sons, removed from Chester County to Philadelphia in 1747; married Rachel, daughter of John Breintnall, and entered into mercantile life, and died early, leaving a widow, his son, Mordecai, the subject of the present remarks, and two daughters.

Mordecai Lewis, though deprived at a tender age of the care and support of his father, pursued his studies with great assiduity, and attained eminence in Latin and the higher branches of an English education. He entered as a lad the counting-house of Samuel Neave, and was, on arriving at his maturity, associated in business with him and Jacob Harman, under the firm of Neave, Harman,

& Lewis, ship-owners and importers. This firm was succeeded by Harman & Lewis, and afterwards by Mordecai Lewis & Co., which firm, composed of William Bingham and himself, was extensively engaged in foreign trade. William Bingham withdrew from the house in the year 1794, and Mordecai Lewis continued in business alone until the period of his death, on 13th March, 1799, at which time, besides having varied and extensive mercantile adventures to different parts of Europe, he was owner, in whole or in part, and had the entire management of seven ships, engaged principally in the East India trade, all of which added not a little to the position held by Philadelphia as the then largest commercial city of the United States.

Many members of the Society of Friends, especially among the young, could not remain neutral in the open strife about to begin between England and her Colonies, and Mordecai Lewis, then just arrived at manhood, took a decided part in opposition to the oppressive measures of the mother country. His name, which was on much of the Provincial paper money issued at an earlier date, also appears on the Continental currency authorized by Congress in February, 1776, which only anticipated the Declaration of Independence a few months, for the motto on this currency, "American Congress," "We are One," encircled by the names of the thirteen States, really embodied the spirit of that instrument. A little previous to this date, in 1775, we find him a member of one of the volunteer military companies organized in Philadelphia, and composed of the first young men of the city; he, however, never entered into active service. At the close of the war, the firm of Mordecai Lewis & Co., in writing to their correspondents in London, say:—

"The restoration of peace, on the broad basis of independence, we flatter ourselves will open scenes of the most extensive nature in the commercial line, and we shall be happy in every opportunity of executing your commands, which our thorough acquaintance with the country, and many other advantages, will enable us to do on the best terms."

He went to Europe in 1772, and on his return married Hannah, daughter of Joseph Saunders, merchant, of Philadelphia, on 7th January, 1773.

Although his time was much occupied with the correspondence



and general management of the extensive business relations of the firm, and with the necessary care of a large family, to whose happiness and advancement he was especially devoted, he took an active interest in many of the public institutions of the city. He was for a number of years a Director of the Bank of North America, of the Philadelphia Contributionship for the Insurance of Houses from loss by Fire, of the Philadelphia Library Company, and Treasurer of the Pennsylvania Hospital, which positions he held until the time of his death.

His executors, Thomas Morris, Samuel Coates, and Joseph Morris, gave a fair outline of his character in a letter addressed by them to one of his valued correspondents in London, dated Philadelphia, 3d Mo. 27, 1799, of which the following is an extract:—

“Knowing the intimate connection, and frequent correspondence which has been maintained between thee and our late excellent relative, Mordecai Lewis, ever since his being in Europe, about twenty-eight years ago, and believing that thou, with others, his very numerous friends, wast well acquainted with his worth, and held him in due estimation, we take the liberty of thus conveying information of his lamented death, on the 13th of the present month, after four days’ illness. His general character for integrity as a merchant, in his very extensive commercial concerns, his unobtrusive benevolence to those who stood in need of his advice or assistance, and the dedication of his time and his valuable talents, in most of our public institutions of merit, as well as his application of them to the benefit of individuals in the settlement of intricate subjects of dispute, have left on the public mind a sense of loss sustained, such as has rarely occurred in our observation. Among his friends who had a more intimate knowledge of him in the private walks of life, his death has left a void more easily imagined than described.”

Mordecai Lewis left a widow and seven children, all now deceased. His four sons, Joseph S. Reeve, Mordecai, and Samuel N. Lewis, following the inclination of their father, entered commercial life, which they adorned with the fruits of a liberal education, enlarged views, and public spirit.

His death occurring at the age of fifty, in the prime of manhood



and recent health, in the full tide of prosperity and usefulness, caused his friends to regret, in a worldly view, a career so short.

His life was, however, exemplary in every respect—full of Christian kindness; his heart and hand were open to comfort and to give, on all proper occasions; so that it may be truly said, he did not live in vain.

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## WILLIAM LEWIS.

WILLIAM LEWIS was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, in 1751, on a small farm, and in a family whose stringent Quakerism held a liberal, and especially a professional education, to be inconsistent both with common sense and religious duty; and his early aspirations towards the law were checked by about the same means as were used to thwart West's artistical propensities. A trip, however, in his seventeenth year, on top of a market-wagon, to New or West Chester, then, as now, a county town, where he found his way into the court-house, became the cause of bringing into contact with the law an intellect which was destined to become one of its greatest ornaments. He began the study of his profession with Mr. Nicholas Waln, then a young man of excellent attainments and of fine forensic talents, but unhappily affected by habits of dissipation and sentiments of unbelief. It was when he was in Mr. Waln's office, that an incident occurred as remarkable as those which formed the turning-point in the lives of Colonel Gardiner, and of Lord Herbert, of Cherbury. Mr. Waln, some of whose connections were Quakers, but who had himself, for many years, thrown off Friends' dress, was passing one day by the Pine Street Meeting-House; the door was open, and, sauntering in, he was attracted by the voice of a preacher on the women's side. Suddenly his sight became obscure; a series of spectres, as he afterwards firmly believed, each bearing to him a portentous message, flitted before him; and, yielding to the awful vision, he sank upon his knees, interrupting the speaker by a prayer of terrific earnestness. This was succeeded by a trance, in which consciousness was destroyed, and from which he awoke only to renounce all worldly

connections whatever. This was in 1773, just about the period of Mr. Lewis's admission to the Bar, and, aided by the business which, on his master's retirement, slipped into his hands, the young lawyer soon found himself with a respectable run of clients. Mr. Joseph Reed, afterwards President of the Council, and Mr. Wilcocks, afterwards, for a long time, Recorder of Philadelphia, together with Mr. Galloway, then the provincial leader, being his chief competitors. When the Declaration of Independence upset the courts, Mr. Lewis took the new test, not yielding, however, any overt patriotism. To vindicate the Quaker loyalists was no small nervous effort on the part of the man whose own patriotism had been equivocal. The effort, however, he made, and made with calmness, courage, and power; and, in the trials of Chapman, Roberts, and Carlisle, he displayed, in full vigor, his eminent powers of reasoning and courage of temper. Perhaps to this may be attributed his unparalleled influence with the Quaker community.

For several years, Mr. Lewis, as a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature, took the lead on the Federal side; and, in 1789, in the State Convention, was foremost in upsetting the absurd Constitution which Dr. Franklin had, a few years previous, persuaded the State to accept.

To Washington's administration, by which, when it began, he had been offered the post of District Attorney, he considered himself bound by the closest ties; and he even departed from his general policy, and went so far as not only to contribute largely to the newspapers of the day, but, in 1792, even to stump the State. In 1792, on the death of the elder Judge Hopkinson, he had a new proof of the President's confidence in the commission then sent him as District Judge.

On the Bench, however, he continued but a short time, the restraint being uncongenial to his taste, and the income insufficient for his habits. Soon after his return to the Bar, he became concerned as leading counsel in the trials of the Western insurgents. In this most heated period, the slightest objects became distorted to the feverish vision; and it was in the course of these trials, that the incidents occurred which temporarily unsettled Mr. Lewis, both with the party and his friends. When originally applied to by the

defendants, he gave them, as appears from an astonished letter of Mr. Pickering's of that time, a plump opinion, that the offence did not amount to treason; and that, if permitted to have his own way, he would clear them all. But, at this time, Mr. Dallas's flowing eloquence, set off, as it was, by a handsome form, and supported by dashing political pretensions, were making themselves felt in the community; and it was with some chagrin, that Mr. Lewis, whose veteran pride made him unwilling to admit a party with any of his brethren, received the announcement that the defendants' friends were desirous of associating Mr. Dallas with himself. His superciliousness so exasperated Mr. Dallas that an altercation ensued, which terminated in a challenge on the part of the latter, which the former, it is said, was unquakerish enough to accept. Fortunately, however, the difficulty was adjusted by a reference to Mr. Rawle; and the offensive messages, having been alternately retracted, at last was discovered—smothered up, as it had been, in the layers of recrimination—the original cause of quarrel, viz., that Mr. Lewis had declared he would never act as counsel in a case in which Mr. Dallas was retained. This, too, was taken back; Mr. Lewis adding, as a proof of his sincerity, that nothing would give him greater pleasure than to receive Mr. Dallas's aid in those very cases; and the result was, that, when John Fries, the first of the insurgents, both in rank and in time of trial, was arraigned, the two belligerents appeared together as his counsel.

After the coming in of Mr. Jefferson's administration, Mr. Lewis took no part in politics, continuing, however, in the unabated practice of his profession until 1819, when, on the 15th of August, after several weeks' illness, he died, retaining to the last the same professional ability and professional devotion which had marked his long career.—*Wharton's State Trials of the United States.*

## JOHN BLAIR LINN, D.D.

JOHN BLAIR LINN, D.D., a poet, and minister in Philadelphia, the son of William Linn, D.D., was born in Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, March 14th, 1777. He early evinced a strong attachment to books. At the age of thirteen he returned home from a seminary in Flatbush, on Long Island, where he had passed two or three years in the full enjoyment of health, and delighted with the beauties of nature. He now entered Columbus College, and engaged in a new scene, being subject to new discipline and interested by new associates. During the four years which he passed in the College, he evinced a powerful tendency to poetry and criticism. Admiring the great works of the dramatic writers, it was natural for him, when unrestrained by deep seriousness, and in a city where there is an established theatre, to hasten where he might behold these works invested with the charms of life and action on the stage. But though the theatre became his chief passion, he was not seduced into vicious pleasures. When his academical career was ended, he was eighteen years of age, and his choice of a profession fell upon the law. He was placed under the direction of Alexander Hamilton, who was the friend of his father; but he did not apply himself with much assiduity to his new pursuit. He regarded the legal science every day with new indifference, and at the close of the first year relinquished the profession altogether. Before this event, he ventured to produce a new dramatic composition, called "Bourville Castle," on the stage. Its success was encouraging; but other objects now claimed his attention, and his dramatic career was entirely renounced. His passion for theatrical amusements yielded to affections of a more serious and beneficial nature, and those religious impressions, which from his earliest infancy he had occasionally felt, now sunk permanently into his heart. He was ordained, June 13th, 1799, as the colleague of Rev. Dr. Ewing, of Philadelphia. The two succeeding years of his life were passed in diligent and successful application to the duties of the pastoral office, which were rendered more arduous by the



increasing infirmities of his venerable colleague. In the summer of 1802, his constitution suffered irreparable mischief from a fever. His brain afterwards was frequently seized with a dizziness, which was followed by a heavy depression of mind. He struggled manfully with his infirmity, but his strength was wasting, and he was sinking into the earth.

The gloom which hovered over his mind became deeper and more settled. He could look beyond the grave without fear; but the terrors of death were almost insupportable. In the summer of 1804, he was induced to take a journey to the Eastern States. The images of melancholy, the gloom, the despondence, the terror which he had felt, still, however, attended him. He returned to Philadelphia in July. August 30th, he arose with less indisposition than usual. On the evening of that day, he had scarcely laid his head upon the pillow, when he said to his wife, "I feel something burst within me. Call the family together; I am dying." A stream of blood now choked his utterance. But after a short interval, he recovered strength to exclaim with fervency, clasping his hands and lifting his eyes, "Lord Jesus, pardon my transgressions, and receive my soul!" Such was the termination of his life, August 30th, 1804.

He prepared for the press and published, soon after he left college, without his name, two volumes of miscellanies, in prose and verse, 12mo. His poem on the Death of Washington, was written in imitation of the manner of Ossian, and published in 1800, and his Powers of Genius, in 1801; a Funeral Sermon on Dr. Ewing, 1808; his two tracts, in the controversy with Dr. Priestley, 1802. After his death, there was published from his manuscript, Valerian, a narrative poem, intended in part to describe the early persecutions of Christians, and rapidly to illustrate the influence of Christianity on the manners of nations, 4to, 1805. Prefixed to this is a sketch of Dr. Linn's Life, by Mr. Brown, written in a style of uncommon excellence.



## GEORGE LIPPARD.

GEORGE LIPPARD was born near the Yellow Springs, Chester County, Pennsylvania, on the 10th day of April, 1822. His ancestors were among the earliest settlers of the State; and in the "Old Time Graveyard," in Germantown, so vividly described and so dearly loved by Mr. Lippard, their remains repose in one unbroken line.

Mr. Lippard, at the age of fifteen, entered the office of Mr. William Badger, as a law student, and subsequently, from personal considerations only, transferred the scene of his studies to the office of Ovid F. Johnston, then Attorney-General of the State. In the fall of 1841, he became associated with "The Spirit of the Times," to which his first literary exertions were contributed. His quaint sayings, humorous chapters, and pungent paragraphs, soon made that paper sought after by all who could appreciate a clever joke, or a piquant recital of the doings of the world around them.

The first novel, we believe, from his pen, entitled, "The Ladye Annabel," published in "The Citizen Soldier," created a decided sensation. Thousands read and re-read its exciting pages with the utmost interest and gratification; and, week after week, the edition of the paper was exhausted at an early moment.

Mr. Lippard, soon after, conceived the idea of picturing the real life of a great city; its virtues, its vices, its false religion, and its heartless neglect of the downtrodden children of God. From this, the novel of "The Quaker City" came into being. Mr. Lippard had, during the course of his studies with Mr. Ovid F. Johnston, acquainted himself with the particulars of crimes of every dye connected with the history of Philadelphia. To frame these in a shape so as to instruct and benefit his fellow-men, was no easy task. It was one, however, that he accomplished. "The Quaker City" embodied the stored-up knowledge of years; the most of its characters were real; and its publication caused a shaking and quaking in every quarter of our city. The book, as a book, it is not necessary to praise.

In all of Mr. Lippard's writings, there is a vigor and originality; and, in his style, a peculiar feature which pleases, fascinates, and captivates the reader. His *materiel* was always fresh; his imagination vivid; his descriptive powers unsurpassed; and there was a certain something in all that he wrote which was sure to commend it to attention and elicit praise.

The truth is, that Lippard was in soul an author. He did not write for pecuniary advancement alone, as most authors do, but he did so because he felt it to be his mission; because his soul yearned for utterance; because, in a word, it was a part of his being. The secret of his success lay in the fact that he believed what he wrote. He never penned a line in defence of wrong, but was ever ready to battle for the right.

Among his prominent works which have been published in book form are: "The Ladye Annabel;" "Herbert Tracy;" "The Quaker City;" "Washington and his Generals;" "Paul Ardenheim;" "Memoirs of a Preacher;" "Adonai, the Pilgrim of Eternity;" "Jesus and the Poor;" "Adrian, the Neophyte;" "The Empire City;" "The Nazarene;" "Blanche of Brandywine;" "Legends of Mexico;" "Washington and his Men;" "The Rose of Wissahickon;" "Bel of Prairie Eden;" and "New York, its Upper Ten and Lower Million." In addition to these, he was the author of other novels never yet issued in book form, numerous essays of an historical and philosophical character; stories, sketches, &c. &c., almost without number, the last of which is entitled, "Slave-Catching in the Quaker City." He commenced his author-life at twenty, and, for twelve years, toiled almost unceasingly. Now he rests from his labors in a world that knows no care.

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## DAVID LLOYD.

DAVID LLOYD was, by profession, a lawyer, who emigrated to Philadelphia at the time of the early settlement from Wales. He had been a Captain under Cromwell in the army. In 1690, while still in England, he was one of those included in Queen Mary's proclamation as a supposed conspirator at the time King William was in

Ireland. Whether the imputation was just or not, he seemed prone, when here, to dabble in *troubled waters*; and was not, it is likely, made welcome to remain in his own country as one suspected,—“*d'être suspect*.”

In the year 1700, James Logan speaks of David Lloyd as the Attorney-General, and as then defending the measures of Penn's administration against the faction headed by Colonel Quarry, the Judge, and John Moore, the Advocate of the Admiralty, the two ringleaders.

Robert Proud, in his history, appears to have been afraid to touch upon his character, but says, “His political talents seem to have been rather to divide than unite; a policy that may suit the crafty politician, but must ever be disclaimed by the Christian statesman.”

His opposition to William Penn appears to have commenced about the year 1701, and had its rise in *resentment*, which he continued till Penn's death, in 1718. He had the faculty of leading the members of the Assembly out of their depth, and causing them to drown all others with their clamors. Afterwards, when he exerted himself to thwart the ambitious designs of Sir William Keith, whom he wished to supplant as a troublesome political rival, he readily succeeded. In this, such was his management and success, that, although Sir William aimed for the Speaker's chair, and had his support out-doors in a cavalcade of eighty mounted horsemen, and the resounding of many guns fired, David Lloyd got every vote in the Assembly but three, calling himself, at the same time, the avowed friend of Governor Gordon, in opposition to Sir William.

David Lloyd was esteemed an able lawyer, and always well prepared

“To perplex and dark  
Maturest counsels, and to make the worst  
Appear the better reason.”

He was, however, believed to be an upright Judge, and in private life was acknowledged to have been a good husband, a kind neighbor, and steady friend.

He married, after he came to Pennsylvania, Grace Growden, a dignified woman, of superior understanding and great worth of cha-

racter. They had but one child, a son, who died at an early age by a distressing accident. He lived for above twenty years at Chester, in the same house since known as Commodore Porter's. His city-house was on the site of the present Bank of Pennsylvania; holding, while he lived there, the office of Register and Recorder for the county, and being, at the time of his death, in 1731, Chief Justice of Pennsylvania. The ashes of himself and wife repose in Friends' ground in Chester, he dying at the age of seventy-five, and she surviving him twenty-nine years—to the year 1760—when she died, aged eighty years.

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## JAMES LOGAN.

JAMES LOGAN, the founder of the Loganian Library of Philadelphia, was a man of note in his literary and scientific accomplishments and writings. He was born in Ireland, in 1674; was a good scholar in the classics and mathematics in his youth, was for a while a teacher, then engaged in business, when he fell in with Penn, and came over with him to America as his secretary in 1699. He rose to the dignity of Chief Justice and President of the Council. He continued in the administration of Penn to the satisfaction of the Colony. As a testimony of the respect in which he was held by the Indians, the Chief Logan, celebrated for his speech presented in "Jefferson's Notes on Virginia," was named after him.

In 1735, he communicated to Peter Collinson, of London, an account of his experiments on maize, with a view of investigating the sexual doctrine, which was printed in the "Philosophical Transactions." This was afterwards enlarged and printed in a Latin Essay at Leyden, in 1739, with the title, "*Experimenta et Maletemata de Plantarum Generatione*," and republished in London, with an English translation by Dr. Fothergill, in 1747. He also published at Amsterdam, in 1740, "*Epistola ad Virum Clarissimum Joannem Abertum Fabricium*," and at Leyden, in 1741, "*Demonstrationes de Radiorum Lucis in Superficies sphericus ab Axe incidentium a primaria Foco Aberrationibus*."



He passed his old age in retirement, at his country-seat named Stenton, near Germantown (now in the city of Philadelphia), penning the translation of Cicero's "*De Senectute*," to which he added extensive familiar notes. The first edition, a very neat specimen of printing, was published by his friend Franklin, in 1744, with the preface.

This was reprinted in London in 1750, at Glasgow in 1751, and in 1778, with Franklin's name falsely inscribed on the title page. Buckminster reviewed this translation at length in the "*Monthly Anthology*," with his accustomed scholarship, and has given it the praise of being the best translation previous to that of Melmoth. The notes, biographical and narrative, are entertaining, and are taken from the original classics, of which Logan had a great store in his library. Buckminster suggests that "from their general complexion, it would not be surprising if it should prove that Dr. Franklin himself had occasionally inserted some remarks. There is sometimes much quaintness and always great freedom in the reflections which, perhaps, betray more of Pagan than of Christian philosophy."

Besides these writings, Logan made "A Translation of Cato's Distichs into English verse," which was printed at Philadelphia. He left behind him in MS. part of an ethical treatise entitled, "The Duties of Man, as they may be Deduced from Nature;" "Fragments of a Dissertation on the Writings of Moses;" "A Defence of Aristotle and the Ancient Philosophers;" "Essays on Languages and the Antiquities of the British Isles;" "A Translation of Maurocordatus, &c.;" and of "Philo Judæus's Allegory of the Essenes."

Like Franklin, Logan was a diligent correspondent with the learned scientific men of Europe. Among his correspondents, says Mr. Fisher, who speaks from acquaintance with his papers, were, "in this country, Cadwalader Colden, Governor Burnett, and Colonel Hunter, the accomplished friend of Swift; and in Europe, Collinson, Fothergill, Mead, Sir Hans Sloane, Flamsteed, Jones, the mathematician, father of the celebrated Sir William Jones, Fabricus, Gronovius, and Linnæus; the last of whom gave the name of Logan to a class in botany."

Logan was a man of general reading in the ancient and modern languages, and had formed for himself a valuable library. He was



making provision, at the time of his death, which occurred October 31st, 1751, to establish this collection of books as a permanent institution, and confer it upon the city, and had erected a building for the purpose. His heirs liberally carried out his intentions, and founded the Loganian Library at Philadelphia. It consisted at first of more than two thousand volumes, which Logan had collected, chiefly Greek and Latin classics, and books in the modern languages of the European continent. A large collection of books was afterwards bequeathed by Dr. William Logan, a younger brother of the founder, who was for some time librarian. The library remained unopened for some time after the Revolution, when the Legislature of Pennsylvania, in 1792, annexed it to the Library Company established by Franklin and his associates. It then contained nearly four thousand volumes. The collection has been kept separate. It received a handsome accession of five thousand volumes, by the bequest of William Mackenzie, a Philadelphian, in 1828.

John Davis, in his *Travels in America*, speaks of his visit to the Loganian Library, in 1798, in terms which remind us of the corresponding compliment to Roscoe and the Liverpool Athenæum in the "Sketch Book." "I contemplated with reverence the portrait of James Logan, which graces the room—*magnum et venerabile nomen*. I could not repress my exclamations. As I am only a stranger, said I, in this country, I affect no enthusiasm on beholding the statues of her generals and statesmen. I have left a church filled with them on the shores of Albion, that have a prior claim to such feeling. But I here behold the portrait of a man whom I consider so great a benefactor to literature, that he is scarcely less illustrious than its munificent patrons of Italy; his soul has certainly been admitted to the company of the congenial spirits of a Cosmo and Lorenzo of Medicis. The Greek and Roman authors, forgotten on their native banks of the Ilyssus and Tiber, delight, by the kindness of a Logan, the votaries to learning on those of the Delaware."

## WILLIAM LOGAN.

WILLIAM LOGAN was the eldest son of James Logan, and was born at the family seat at Stenton, in the county of Philadelphia. His education was superintended under the eye of his father, and completed in England. The mercantile business was selected as his profession; but after the decease of his father he moved to Stenton, and devoted himself chiefly to the study and practice of agriculture.

He occupied a seat at the Provincial Council, and took a part in the passing interests, and was a decided advocate and protector of the Indian race. He received the Indians cordially at his place; gave the aged a settlement, called the Indian Field, on his land, and educated their young at his own expense. When the fierce and inflamed spirits from Paxton sought the blood and lives of the unoffending Indians, even to Philadelphia, he, notwithstanding his union with Friends, joined others in taking measures to defend their lives by force.

He travelled extensively in the United States, and his "Journal" from Philadelphia to Georgia is still preserved, and, if published, might show a different state of society and country from what is now exhibited. During the Revolutionary war he was in England. It is mentioned to his credit, that with the same spirit of his father he executed the conveyance of the Loganian Library to the City of Philadelphia, as well as the estates, which have since added to the catalogue and the income.

As fears were entertained from some of our own excited citizens favorable to the Paxton boys, William Logan and Joseph Fox the barrack-master, gave them blankets, and accompanied them as far as Trenton.

## GEORGE LOGAN, M.D.

GEORGE LOGAN, M.D., a Senator of the United States, the grandson of James Logan, was the son of William Logan, and was born at Stenton, near Philadelphia, September 9th, 1758. After being three years at the medical school of Edinburgh, he travelled on the continent, and returned to this country in 1779. After applying himself for some years to agriculture, and serving in the Legislature, he was induced, in June, 1798, to embark for Europe, with the sole purpose of preventing a war between America and France. He made his way from Hamburg to Paris, and there was introduced to Merlin, the Chief Director. At this period, Mr. Gerry, the American Minister, had departed, an embargo had been laid on our shipping, and many seamen had been imprisoned. Dr. Logan persuaded the French Government to raise the embargo, and prepared the way for a negotiation which terminated in peace. He was indeed reproached and accused of being sent by a faction; but, on his return, he vindicated himself in a letter, of January 12th, 1799. He was a Senator in the Seventh and Eighth Congresses, from 1801 to 1807. He went to England, February 10th, 1810, on the same peaceful mission which led him to France, but not with the same success. He died at Stenton, April 9th, 1821, aged sixty-six years. Mr. Duponceau said of him: "And art thou too gone, Logan? friend of man! friend of peace! friend of science! Thou whose persuasive accents could still the angry passions of the rulers of men, and dispose their minds to listen to the voice of reason and justice!" He was an active member of the Board of Agriculture and of the Philosophical Society. He published "Experiments on Gypsum, and on the Rotation of Crops," 1797.

## MORRIS LONGSTRETH.

MORRIS LONGSTRETH was born in the city of Philadelphia, in December, 1800. His paternal ancestor had emigrated from Yorkshire, England, among the earliest settlers under William Penn. The father of Morris Longstreth died in the year 1808, of the yellow fever, leaving a widow and a family of small children. The subject of our memoir was only a weakly youth, at the age of seventeen, when his physician recommended a trip to the West; and he was sent by the firm in which he was employed on a collecting tour. In this capacity he rendered much satisfaction, and returned home a stronger man. On his return, the firm had failed, and he sought other employment.

About the year 1825 he entered into partnership with Morris W. Cooke, the eldest son of his father-in-law, John Cooke. His own means being rather small, he felt that strict attention to business was absolutely necessary.

In the year 1827 he married Mary E., daughter of John Cooke, an old-established and prosperous merchant. For some time Mr. Longstreth was moderately successful in business.

In the year 1827, a man of the name of Hurlick flourished in this city as a collector of militia taxes; he became very troublesome to the Friends of this city, and more especially to the subject of this memoir. Mr. Longstreth having had an accidental sprain, and being close-sighted, he was exempt from duty. This Hurlick on one occasion seized him and attempted to carry him to prison, and not having got a certificate of his exemption, he was in his mercy; but he was prevailed to carry him to the Colonel of the 74th Regiment, who at once released him.

This indefatigable collector was determined to have his fine; and for this purpose he went to the store of Mr. Longstreth and seized the amount in goods. Mr. Longstreth in the meantime had got a certificate, and caused Hurlick to be arrested for trespass; but, by his abject submission and promise of good behavior, he was let off.

Some years ago, it was the custom of the churches to have chains across the streets on a Sunday adjoining their respective churches, so, as they alleged, that the services might not be interrupted. This was considered, and justly too, an oppressive and tyrannical measure; and Mr. Longstreth, with many others, opposed it, and the streets are now free for any one that are orderly.

At the time of the withdrawal of the deposits from the Bank of the United States our subject was among the faithful few who sustained the Executive. He was always opposed to an extensive banking system, and used all his influence to the furtherance of such views.

In 1835, he was desirous of settling down to farming; and, for this purpose, he took a journey as far as Reading in a canal boat; but he finally returned, and purchased a farm in Whitemarsh Township, Montgomery County, twelve miles north of this city.

In the year 1836 he became a candidate for Congress in this city, but was defeated.

In 1837, he removed to his farm, where he continued the rest of his life. He paid much attention to agriculture, and he became somewhat known as a man of considerable information on this subject, and was considered an authority.

On the 15th day of March, 1841, he was appointed, by Governor Porter, an Associate Judge of the Courts in the County of Montgomery, where he continued for some time to give satisfaction, which office he resigned on the 1st of January, 1848.

In October of the year 1847 he was elected to the office of Canal Commissioner, which he discharged most faithfully, to the satisfaction of all.

After Governor Shunk resigned, Mr. Longstreth was nominated by the Democrats as candidate for Governor, but he was defeated. The careful attention of Mr. Longstreth to his duties as Canal Commissioner, in exposing himself to the districts in which malaria abounded, brought on disease from which he never finally recovered. Now, seeing that he had done much for his party, he retired entirely from political life, to enjoy the serenity of his family. A portion of the winter of 1854 he spent in this city with his eldest son, and he seemed to rally a good deal amidst old friends. He soon returned home; and, having caught another



cold, he was finally forced to succumb to an effusion of blood on the lungs, on the 26th of April, 1855. His death was much lamented, and much respect was paid to him throughout the State.

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### JOHN LUDLOW, D.D., LL.D.

AMONG the number of distinguished Philadelphians who have recently passed away, few have occupied a more prominent position than the Rev. Dr. Ludlow. For the space of eighteen years he was Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, a member of the various literary and scientific societies of our city and country, and a prominent theologian and divine. The ancestry of Dr. Ludlow were of English and Holland origin; and he was one of the descendants, in the fourth generation, from Gabriel Ludlow and Susan Haumer, who arrived in this country about the year 1698-9. His grandfather, Richard Ludlow, one of several brothers, was both a merchant and farmer, and served as an officer in the Army of the Revolution, while the other brothers held offices of trust under the King. His father, John R. Ludlow, was also a merchant and farmer, and resided, for a number of years, at the ancient town of Aquackanonk, upon the banks of the picturesque Passaic, New Jersey, where Dr. Ludlow was born, December 13th, 1793.

At an early age, Dr. Ludlow gave strong indications of a vigorous mind; and an anxiety to develop and improve his mental energy, made him eager for every source of mental improvement. His father perceiving this natural instinct in his boy, determined to place him at the age of thirteen in the Columbian Academy in the village of Bergen, then one of the most celebrated classical academies in the State of New Jersey. After remaining there about three years, he was removed to the school of the eloquent and distinguished Rev. Samuel Whelpley, in the town of Newark, New Jersey. The great progress and proficiency made in his studies while with Mr. Whelpley, induced the principal to appoint him to the superintendence of the English department of this school, while

at the same time he pursued the studies necessary to fit him to enter college.

At the age of nineteen, Dr. Ludlow entered the junior class in Union College, New York, then, as now, under the able direction of the Rev. Dr. Nott. While at college, he was esteemed one of the most intelligent and diligent students, and graduated with the highest honor of his class and the valedictory oration, 1814, respected and beloved by professors and his fellow-students as the chief ornament of a class which has given several eminent men to the service of the Church and the nation. At first it was the intention of Dr. Ludlow to enter the legal profession, and his studies for a time were devoted to that object, but becoming impressed with serious religious feelings, he abandoned that course, and entered the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Dutch Church, at New Brunswick, New Jersey. After remaining a year at the Seminary, he was induced to accept the appointment of tutor in Union College, pursuing at the same time his theological studies under the direction of the Rev. Dr. Yates, then Professor of Ethics and Theology in connection with Union College. After remaining a year as tutor, he resigned his position, and again returned to New Brunswick, and completed his theological course in 1817. Immediately upon being ordained, he accepted the pastorate of the Reformed Dutch Church in New Brunswick, then one of the largest and most important congregations in the denomination, where Dr. Ludlow soon became noted as an eloquent and powerful divine. At the close of the first year of his pastoral office, the professorship of Biblical Literature and Ecclesiastical History becoming vacant by death, Dr. Ludlow was appointed by the General Synod of his Church to fill that important position, the other professorship being filled by the Rev. Dr. John H. Livingston, one of the most distinguished theologians of our country. On account of the pecuniary embarrassments of the institution, and a pressing call being made upon him by the First Reformed Dutch Church in Albany, New York, he resigned his professorship, 1823, and took charge of the church in Albany, where, during eleven years of his pastorate, his pulpit was a centre of attraction both to his own congregation and to the numerous distinguished men whom the public interests drew to the capital of the State. During his residence at Albany, on account

of his known abilities, he was repeatedly solicited to take charge of other churches and literary institutions. These invitations he invariably declined until called to the Provostship of the University of Pennsylvania, in 1834, after his inaugural address, which was pronounced by all one of the most judicious and eloquent which had ever been delivered, and which was published and extensively circulated by the Board of Trustees.

At the examinations of the classes, it was a frequent subject of remark, by the Faculty and others, how well prepared the students were upon some of the most abstruse points in metaphysics. Dr. Ludlow did not confine himself to the duties of his chair alone; but at the opening of the Athenian Institute, the first institution before which, to any great extent, popular lectures were delivered, Dr. Ludlow was appointed a lecturer, and gave several before that institution and the Mercantile Library, with great satisfaction and instruction to the highly intelligent audiences assembled. In addition to his lectures before the literary institutions of the city, he was frequently called upon to lecture before kindred institutions in New York and other places, and was one of the few distinguished men who have delivered lectures before the Smithsonian Institute, at Washington. Although engaged in the duties of his Provostship, Dr. Ludlow was always willing to assist his brethren in the ministry, and preached on an average once a Sabbath, during the eighteen years he was a resident of Philadelphia, frequently at the urgent solicitation of congregations, whose pastors were compelled to leave on account of ill health, filling the pulpit for a year or more at a time.

Dr. Ludlow resigned his Provostship of the University in 1852, upon being elected to the chair of Ecclesiastical History and Church Government, in the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Dutch Church, New Brunswick, New Jersey. He died, 8th September, 1857, at the residence of his eldest son, Dr. John Livingston Ludlow, in this city.

## CHRISTOPHER LUDWICK.

CHRISTOPHER LUDWICK was by birth a German, born in 1720; by trade a baker. In early life he enlisted in the Austrian army, and served in the war against the Turks. At Prague, he endured the hardships of the seventeen weeks' siege. After its conquest by the French, in 1741, he enlisted and served in the army of Prussia. At the peace, he entered an Indiaman, and went to India under Boscawen; afterwards, he was in many voyages, from 1745 to 1752, from London to Holland, Ireland, and the West Indies, as a sailor. In 1753, he sailed to Philadelphia with an adventure of £25 worth of clothing, on which he made a profit of \$300, and again returned to London. He had taken the idea of becoming a gingerbread baker in Philadelphia; and in 1754 he came out with the necessary prints,—seemingly a new idea among the simple cake-eaters then! He commenced his career in Letitia Court, and began to make money fast by his new employment. He proved himself an industrious, honest, and good neighbor, which led to a deserved influence among the people, and to the *sobriquet* of the “Governor of Letitia Court.”

At the commencing period of the Revolution, in 1774, he had become rich, and gave his influence and his money freely to help on the resistance of the Colonies. He was elected readily on all the committees and conventions of the time for that object. On one occasion, when it was proposed by General Mifflin to procure fire-arms by private subscription, and whilst several demurred to it as unfeasible, he put down the opposition by saying aloud, “Let the poor gingerbread baker be put down for £200!” In the summer of 1776, he acted as a volunteer in the Flying Camp, without pay. He possessed great influence there among his fellow-soldiers; he stimulated them to endurance; and on one occasion prevented their revolt when complaining of inadequate rations, by falling on his knees before them, and imploring them to patience and better hopes. When eight Hessians were captured and brought to camp, he interceded to have them handed over to him to manage; which



was to take them to Philadelphia, to there show them the fine German churches, and the comfort and good living of Germans in humble pursuits of life; and then to release them to go back to their regiment, and to tell the Germans that we had a paradise for his countrymen, if they would but desert their service. Desertion did follow whenever occasion offered; and the most of these lived prosperous citizens among us. So much for the war for them. With the same good design for his countrymen, he solicited and obtained the grant to visit the Hessians' camp on Staten Island as a disguised deserter. There he succeeded fully to impress them with the happiness of Germans settled in Pennsylvania, and to return safely, with a full assurance of the usefulness of his mission.

In the year 1777, he was cordially appointed by Congress as Baker-General of the American Army, and to choose freely his own assistants and necessities. In their instructions to him, they expected to require from him one pound of bread for every pound of flour, but Christopher readily replied, "Not so; I must not be enriched by the war. I shall return one hundred and thirty-five pounds of bread for every one hundred pounds of flour:" an increase of weight by baking seemingly not then understood by the rulers, and not much by *families* now!

As a proof that he was respected and valued in his sphere, he was often invited to dine with Washington in large companies, besides having many opportunities of long conferences alone with him, as commander of the army, in relation to the bread supplies. The General appreciated his worth, and usually addressed him in company as "his honest friend." In his intercourse with the officers, he was blunt, but never offensive. By common consent, he was privileged to say and do what he pleased. His German accent, his originalty of thought and expression, and his wit and humor, made him a welcome guest at every table in the camp. He took with him to camp a handsome china bowl brought by him from China; around its silver rim was engraved his name, &c., and from it he was accustomed to offer his punch or other beverage with his own leading toast, to wit: "Health and long life to Christopher Ludwick and wife." That still exists as a bequeathed legacy to be perpetuated. At the return of peace, he settled on his farm near Germantown. In his absence it had been plundered of everything



by the British. A certificate of his good conduct, in the proper handwriting of General Washington, given in 1785, was much valued, was put under frame, and kept hung up in his parlor as his diploma. In that he much gloried; and considered it a full recompense for losses which he had sustained by a depreciated currency, paid to him by sundry persons for his bonds for good money lent them. He owned at one time eight houses in Philadelphia, and had out £3000 of money lent on bonds and interest. He left a great deal of his money to public charities, especially a fund for educating poor children. He delighted to find out objects of charity, and to relieve their wants. In the time of the yellow fever of 1793, he went into Fraley's bakery in Philadelphia, and worked at bread-baking gratuitously to relieve the wants of the poor. He had a great respect for religion and its duties, which he said he inherited from his father, who had given him in early life a silver medal, on which was inscribed, among other devices, "The blood of Christ cleanseth from all sin." This he always carried with him as a kind of talisman; and with a view to enforce its remembrance and its precepts when he left it to his family, he had it affixed to the lid of a silver tankard, and on the front he had inscribed a device of a Bible, a plough, and a sword, with the motto, "May the religious industry and courage of a German parent be the inheritance of his issue!" Such a man leaves the savor of a good name and a good example to posterity.

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### PATRICK LYON.

PATRICK LYON was born in London, England, about 1779, and emigrated to this country, and landed in Philadelphia on the 25th of November, 1793. He was in many respects an extraordinary man, yet it may be said accident made him greater than large intellectual endowments. He was at that day considered a man of mechanical genius, and he must have had rare abilities if we may judge of his success. He seems to have been possessed of an ener-

getic and determined mind sufficiently strong to have faced dangers that most men would have quailed before. His rare abilities as a locksmith, his peculiar eccentricities of character, his blunt English, and his straightforward way of doing business, gave to Patrick Lyon an individuality of character that no other man in Philadelphia possessed then or since. An autobiography has appeared that contains the main incidents of Patrick's life, from which we shall avail ourselves of giving a digest of the principal occurrences of his life.

The cause of Patrick Lyon's greatness originated with the Bank of Pennsylvania, which was then located in Carpenters' Hall. Patrick being then the best locksmith in this city, and the vaults of the Bank requiring alteration, the Directors of the Bank employed him to attend to the doors of the vaults, and do what required doing. It appears that, while Lyon was fixing the doors, impressions were taken of the locks; but this did not attract much notice at the time. On the 2d of September, 1798, it being then Sunday, when the yellow fever was raging, and mourning and sorrow reigned triumphant over the city, the Bank of Pennsylvania was robbed of \$162,821 61. Conjecture and suspicion were afloat as to who could have done so daring an act; and as Lyon's celebrity in making locks was so well known, and as the vaults had been opened by keys, it was supposed that he who made them had either done the deed or was accessory to the act; and what still further confirmed public suspicion was the fact that Lyon had at this time taken the whole of his business and family down the river to Cape Henlopen, to escape the yellow fever.

It may easily be supposed what excitement such a robbery caused at that day, when this city did not number more than sixty thousand persons. It was generally conceded that, taking all things into consideration, but more especially the absence of Lyon on this occasion, that he was the person who robbed the Bank. The first intelligence of the Bank being robbed that reached Lyon was brought to him at Lewistown by some friends of his who had just come from Philadelphia. He no sooner heard of the suspicions against him than he immediately took the first boat to Brandywine Creek, a distance of twenty-eight miles from this city; he then went to Wilmington to obtain the stage, but he could not succeed in

doing so ; and, at this time, the yellow fever was raging, but Patrick being an indomitable man, and honesty, which he considered the fairest jewel in a man's character, stimulated him on to Philadelphia, there to confront his accusers face to face. What a brave virtue that honesty is ! What a man can do under its influence none can tell but those who have felt its value. At length, Lyon arrived in Philadelphia, and went at once to Squire Jennings, told him his name, and said he believed he had a warrant out against him for robbing the Bank of Pennsylvania. He said, " Yes ; and by order of Jonathan Smith, the Cashier of said Bank." " Well," said Patrick, " here I am."

After some preliminaries had been gone through, Patrick was held in such heavy bail, \$150,000, that none of his friends could release him ; but the bail was reduced to \$6000, which he obtained. This conduct of Lyon's won him much favor among the host of friends he possessed, and they firmly believed he would prove his innocence. On the 12th of January, 1799, a bill was preferred against him to the grand jury, who turned it out *ignoramus*. Lyon, nevertheless, demanded a trial, but in this he could not succeed ; but he afterwards sued the Bank, and obtained \$12,000 damages.

Lyon suffered terribly in prison. The yellow fever was at that time raging in the prison, and it is only a miraculous event that he came out alive.

The Bank of Pennsylvania was robbed by the inside porter, Thomas Cunningham, who slept in the store, and Isaac Davis, a carpenter. Thomas Cunningham was taken sick the next day with yellow fever, and died after a short illness. It almost seemed as if this robbery was not to be found out ; but, as the old adage says, " murder will out," this came out in the following manner. Davis, some time after, deposited in the same Bank \$1600, and, on November 17th, \$3910 more. This induced a strong suspicion ; and, on inquiry, it was found out that he had deposits in several other Banks to a considerable amount. He was arrested, confessed his guilt, and finally restored \$158,779 53, and assigned property to the Bank valued at \$800, making, in all, \$159,599 53.

Thus innocence, emboldened by its own strength and power,

fairly bearded the lion in his den ; and honesty came out of the conflict only to be more valued by the great and the good.

Patrick Lyon lived to a ripe old age, and died in this city, respected for his honesty and fair-dealing, and a bright example to those whose bad luck may sometimes be in the ascendant ; but who, nevertheless, if they are honest, will be sure to conquer.

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## CHARLES MACALESTER.

CHARLES MACALESTER, an eminent merchant of the city of Philadelphia, was born at Campbelltown, in Argyleshire, Scotland, on the 5th of April, 1765.

The habits of his youth, and the pursuits principally followed in the place of his birth, early turned his thoughts and inclinations to a maritime life. Situated on a fine harbor or bay, on the eastern shore of the Mull of Cantyre, the promontory of Western Scotland, which stretches into the Irish Sea, Campbelltown presented a central position for the coasting and home trade of peculiar advantage ; and the abundance of the herring fishery made that also a principal occupation of the townsmen. Young Macalester, of daring spirit and a manly frame, soon heartily enlisted in pursuits so congenial to his nature, and adopted them as his own future occupation. He had, however, received the elements of a good education and moral training. He was in the midst of the sturdy adherents of the ancient Presbyterian faith. Campbelltown itself was the seat of a long-established Presbytery ; and the schools were of more than the usual excellence of those of towns of its size. He entered upon life, therefore, with a self-relying spirit, a good education, and rooted principles of integrity and religion.

The sphere of Campbelltown did not long satisfy his adventurous disposition ; and as soon as he was of age, he made his way to the new Republic of the United States. In the year 1786, he was naturalized as an American citizen. Philadelphia, being then the seaport of largest commerce, was chosen by him as the field for his future enterprise. In the month of October of the same year he



married, at Baltimore, Miss Ann Sampson, a young lady of Scottish birth, remarkable, as long as she lived, for her kind and genial nature, the unaffected simplicity of her manners, and an exemplary and pious devotion to all the duties of maternal and domestic life. For many years after her marriage, the business of her husband required long and frequent absences from home, so that the care and education of a large family devolved almost entirely upon her; these were conducted, equally in her younger and maturer years, with good judgment, affection, and success that could not be surpassed.

For the succeeding eighteen years, from 1786 to 1804, Captain Macalester (for he was able, at a very early age, to take the chief command of his vessel), sailed from the port of Philadelphia, generally acting as the supercargo as well as the master. With his increasing reputation for activity and skill in the latter capacity, and the fidelity and ability with which he managed the commercial arrangements intrusted to him, his reputation soon stood second to none in the community in which he lived. With this his fortunes correspondingly increased. He soon became a partial, and finally an entire owner of the vessels in which he sailed. Among these was the *George Barclay*. This vessel he navigated with remarkable success during the troubles which, at the close of the last century, crowded the ocean with privateers, the plunderers of American commerce. His vessel, armed with twenty guns, manned with a hundred Yankee seamen, and sailed by a daring, fearless, and skilful captain, made her voyages with a rapidity and safety which elicited from the merchants and navigators of Philadelphia fresh admiration every time he returned to port.

About the beginning of the present century, the shipwrights of Philadelphia had attained great celebrity for the beauty of the models of their vessels, which united, in a remarkable degree, celerity in sailing and fitness for the purposes of commerce. Among the most skilful of these was Mr. Grice. Captain Macalester engaged him to construct a ship, called the *Fanny*, in building which Mr. Grice exhibited his ablest skill in the adoption of the principles of naval architecture, and Captain Macalester added the suggestions derived from his own experience as a practical and observing navigator. The result was that the *Fanny*, when



launched, proved to be the fastest sailing merchantman of the day. Captain Macalester accomplished his first voyage in her, from Philadelphia to Cowes in the Isle of Wight, in seventeen days, a rapidity of passage of which there was no previous record. He took with him, as passengers on that occasion, the wealthy and distinguished merchant of Philadelphia and Senator of the United States, Mr. William Bingham, with his beautiful and accomplished wife. It is probable that this incident was the foundation of a particularly friendly intercourse, which, from his correspondence, appears to have existed between him and Mr. Alexander Baring (afterwards the distinguished Lord Ashburton), who was the son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Bingham. He also commenced, at that time, relations of business with the house of Sir Francis Baring & Co., which continued long afterwards.

In London, he engaged to make a voyage in the *Fanny* to Batavia and back. What was the surprise of the consignees of his vessel in London when he presented himself in their counting-house, having accomplished the entire voyage in seven months and twenty days, a speed, at that time, without any parallel. It was in the course of this voyage that he was chased by a British frigate, which fell in with him at daylight in the morning, but could not overtake him until ten o'clock at night. When the British boarding-officer stepped upon his deck, he said to Captain Macalester, "Sir, you have a very fast ship." "I thought so, until to-day," was the reply. "Our frigate," answered the officer, "is reputed to be the fastest in our navy, and we never before have had such a chase."

In the year 1804, Captain Macalester relinquished his voyages to sea, and for the succeeding twenty-one years, was engaged in mercantile pursuits in the city of Philadelphia. He still, however, preferred the occupations connected with navigation. Sometimes in connection with other merchants, sometimes altogether on his own account, he built several of the finest vessels which sailed from the port. Their voyages appear to have been made most frequently to China, India, and the Dutch Islands in the East, and in Europe to London and Amsterdam. In Amsterdam his correspondents were the houses of Hope & Co. and Insinger & Co.; with the latter of whom especially his letters show that he enjoyed particular intimacy.

At the age of sixty, in the year 1825, having realized a considerable fortune, and all his children being successfully settled in life, he determined to retire from active pursuits. This, however, he was not permitted altogether to do by a portion of his fellow-citizens, who knew the energy of his character as a man of business. The Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania, in the vicissitudes of commercial events, had encountered serious losses, and the energies of a skilful and resolute man placed at its head appeared to be necessary to save it from further disasters. On the 14th of February, 1825, Captain Macalester was elected the President of the Company. In two years he succeeded in redeeming its fortunes, and, in 1827, he received from the stockholders a service of plate, as a testimonial of their grateful sense of the manner in which he had discharged the task he had undertaken in their behalf. He continued to be the President of the Company until his death.

Throughout his life he had been, at all times, a generous and liberal participator in the various plans of benevolence and charity for which Philadelphia is distinguished. The strong sense of religious obligation which he had imbibed in his boyhood, among the sturdy Presbyterians of Argyleshire, remained with him unimpaired as long as he lived, and soothed and comforted his declining years. Volumes of sermons of the ablest Scottish divines still exist, which contain a record of the latitude and longitude, at which the various discourses were read, during his long and numerous voyages. He was a faithful and devoted observer of the usages of his own Church, though his nature was so kind that his own predilections were never tinged with the slightest intolerance in regard to the religious opinions of others. He was the Treasurer of the Marine Bible Society of Philadelphia. He was among the most active of the benevolent citizens who established the Mariners' Church, with a view to allure the seamen wandering on the docks to a spot where they might hear, without formalities unfamiliar to them, the lessons of Divine Truth. He was the Vice-President of the St. Andrew's Society, an institution having for its object the benevolent care of his Scottish countrymen. He was one of the Directors of the Bank of North America, the most venerable of similar institutions in Philadelphia. He preserved through his life, notwithstanding its

various changes and occupations, the love of reading which he had acquired in his early Scottish school ; and a small but well-selected library was a necessary part of the furniture of his cabin on all his voyages.

He died at Willow Grove, near Philadelphia, at the age of sixty-seven, on the 29th of August, 1832. He was buried in the cemetery of the Presbyterian Church in Arch Street in Philadelphia.

His widow survived him for several years. He left eight children. His sons, who still live, are Charles Macalester, now a resident of Philadelphia, and Edward Macalester, of Lexington, Kentucky.

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## WILLIAM MACPHERSON.

WILLIAM MACPHERSON was the son of Captain John Macpherson, a Scotch gentleman, who came to America about thirty years before the Declaration of Independence, and of Margaret Rodgers, the sister of the late Rev. Dr. John Rodgers, of New York. He was born in Philadelphia, in the year 1756, and there received the early part of his education, which was finished at Princeton, in New Jersey. At the age of thirteen he received the appointment of Cadet in the British Army; and, before the Declaration of Independence, his father having purchased for him a Lieutenant's commission, he was made Adjutant of the 16th Regiment. Mr. Macpherson was with his regiment at Pensacola at the commencement of the Revolutionary War, at which period he offered to resign his commission, but his resignation was not accepted. Several years afterwards, on the arrival of the 16th Regiment at New York, Sir Henry Clinton permitted Mr. Macpherson to resign his commission, in consequence of his declaring that he never would bear arms against his countrymen. He was not, however, allowed to sell his commission, for which his father had given a considerable sum of money. He joined the American Army on the river Hudson, above New York, about the end of the year 1779; and as General Washington had known him for many years, and under-

stood the value of the sacrifice he had made for the good of his country, the appointment of Major by brevet in the American Army was conferred upon him.

Major Macpherson always retained the esteem and friendship of the Commander-in-chief, and his services during the Revolutionary War were rewarded by President Washington by the appointment of Surveyor of the Port of Philadelphia, by commission dated 19th September, 1789. On March 8th, 1792, a new commission was issued, appointing him Inspector of the Revenue for the Port of Philadelphia; and, on the 28th November, 1793, he was appointed Naval Officer of the Port of Philadelphia, which office he held until his death, in 1813; being continued therein during the successive administrations of Presidents Adams, Jefferson, and Madison.

In the year 1794, upon the manifestation of opposition in some of the western counties of Pennsylvania to the excise law enacted in the previous session of Congress, a large and respectable body of the citizens of Philadelphia formed themselves into several companies and invited Major Macpherson to place himself at their head. They were organized into a battalion, and, in compliment to him, they styled themselves "Macpherson's Blues." This fine corps formed a part of the army commanded by Governor Mifflin on the western expedition, and was universally respected for its patriotism and discipline. Before the return of the army to Philadelphia, Major Macpherson was promoted to the rank of Colonel, and subsequently was appointed by Governor Mifflin a Brigadier-General in the militia of Pennsylvania. On the occasion of war with France, in 1798, the Blues were reorganized, and, with the addition of several companies, consisting of cavalry, artillery, grenadiers, and riflemen, were formed into a legion, under the command of General Macpherson. On the 11th of March, 1799, General Macpherson was appointed by President Adams Brigadier-General of the Provisional Army, and was selected to command the troops sent into Northampton County to enforce obedience to the revenue laws. After the disbanding of the Provisional Army, General Macpherson retired from military life to his country-seat, near Philadelphia, where he resided until his death, which took place in November, 1813, in consequence of hemorrhage, caused by a schirrous tumor on his neck. He was respected for his integrity, honor, and patriotism.



## PETER MARKOE.

PETER MARKOE, a poet, died at Philadelphia, in 1792. He published "Miscellaneous Poems," 1787; "The Times," a poem, 1788; "The Patriot Chief," a tragedy; "Reconciliation," an opera; and was supposed to be the author of "The Algerine Spy."

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## CHRISTOPHER MARSHALL.

CHRISTOPHER MARSHALL, the diarist, was one of the most respectable citizens of Philadelphia. Having accumulated a competency as a druggist, he had retired from business prior to the commencement of the Revolution, and having ample leisure, his attachment to the American cause brought him forward into various posts of honor and responsibility connected with the progress of the Revolution. It will be seen by this brief notice of him, that he was on friendly and confidential terms with many leading men in the Continental Congress and the new Government of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Marshall was cut off from the Society of Friends for the active part which he took on the Whig side in the contest with the mother country. This will account for the severity with which he noticed some of the actions of the members of that Society, who, in taking an active part on the side of Great Britain, departed, as he thought, as much from the doctrine and discipline of the Society as himself, his character for truth and honor having come down to us unsullied.

On the 17th March, 1775, he was elected a manager of a company "set on foot for making woollens, linen, and cotton." The election was held at Carpenters' Hall, city of Philadelphia.

He attended almost daily the meetings of the Continental Committee of Council and Safety, held at the Philosophical Hall, and





at their room in the Coffee House. He associated and conferred with all the true Whigs of the day. His Diary, running through the years 1774 to 1781, called "Marshall's Remembrancer," edited by William Duane, Esq., and published by Hazard & Mitchell, in 1839 and 1849, is a most interesting work, and deserves a place in the library of every patriotic American. Of all the Friends of that day he was the most reliable, and stood firm in supporting such men as Thomas McKean and Cæsar Rodney, in advocating the Declaration of Independence in 1776. In his Diary, under date of December 31st, 1777, he says, "I was visited by Jedediah Snowden and Benjamin Harbeson, for me to sign a petition they were carrying about, for the purpose of requesting the Assembly to call out the whole force of this State immediately, while there is a prospect of this severe cold weather lasting, in order to attack General Howe, in and out of our city, and thereby entirely ruin his army, and rid the Colonies of such cruel monsters."

"November 27th, 1777. Past four, I went, by appointment of Council, in company with Colonel Bayard, to confer with the Clothier-General respecting the clothing of the troops of this State; then returned to Council."

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## TIMOTHY MATLACK.

THIS patriot of the American Revolution deserves a conspicuous place in history. He was one of the "General Committee of Safety," who met almost every day, during the war, at the Coffee House, State House, or Philosophical Hall, to consider the welfare of the cause and the defence of the country. He was one of the associates of Thomas Paine, James Wigdon, Robert Hare, Colonel Roberdeau, Christopher Marshall, and others. His name appears often in Christopher Marshall's Diary, as one of the most active spirits of the days of 1775-6. His example was worthy of the cause, and led many to follow his footsteps. He was considered somewhat eccentric in his manners and ideas, but his patriotism and valor were undoubted.

Chiefly from this difference of opinion, as well as to the propriety of oaths of allegiance, and the right or power in any sectarian body of disownment or excommunication, grew the formation of the Society of Free Quakers, or, as they were frequently called, "Fighting Quakers."

This body, of which Mr. Matlack was one of the founders, was not numerous, but highly respectable. He was instrumental in raising a large sum of money for building the Free Quaker meeting-house, southwest corner of Fifth and Arch Streets. Among those whose names were obtained to the subscription list are seen Benjamin Franklin, Robert Morris, John Cadwalader, Samuel Wetherill, and others of equal renown. The property thus obtained, as well as the burying-ground in Fifth Street below Prune Street, is now held by the Society. The latter was granted to the Free Quakers, in trust for a burying-ground, the 26th August, 1786, by the Legislature of Pennsylvania.

Timothy Matlack was truly a Philadelphian, and truly an American citizen and soldier. He became a colonel in the army, and had the command of a battalion "to whom he had the resolves of Congress of the 15th of May, 1776, and the resolves made the 20th of May, 1776, at the State House, read, when it was proposed whether they should support them at all hazards, and the same was agreed to unanimously." In Duane's "Marshall's Remembrancer" we find the following: "June 14th, 1776, yesterday an express came from Harry Fisher of a numerous body of Tories assembled in Sussex County, State of Delaware, who were intrenching and had cut off the communication by land to Dover. . . . Powder and ball were sent from here under escort of a company of Colonel Matlack's battalion."

On the 14th June, 1776, he was elected one of the Deputies to attend the conference from the City and Liberties, together with Benjamin Franklin, Thomas McKean, S. Delany, John Cox, John Bayard, G. Schlosser, C. Ludwig, J. B. Smith, James Milligan, B. Loxley, C. Marshall, Sen'r, Joseph Moulder, F. Gurney, J. Schriener, J. Deane, J. Barge, Dr. Rush, S. C. Morris, William Coates, S. Brewster, J. Blewer, William Robinson, G. Goodwin, and William Lowman.

When he first wore his sword in the streets of Philadelphia,

some of his quondam Friends, or Quakers, belonging to meeting, sought to ridicule his side arms, asking him what it was, to which he replied, "it was to defend his property and his liberty." It afterwards proved that he not only knew how to wear his sword, but how to use it to some effect.

Colonel Matlack lived to be upwards of ninety-nine years of age, and retained his faculties to the last in a remarkable degree. In his youth, he was a close observer of passing events, and in old age, it was delightful to listen to his reminiscences of the past.

He was born at Haddonfield, New Jersey, in the year 1730, and died near Holmesburg, Pennsylvania, April 15th, 1829, and was interred in the Free Quaker burial-ground, South Fifth Street, Philadelphia.

Colonel Matlack held office under the early Government of the State, and was "Master of the Rolls" for many years, residing at Lancaster, where he continued to reside for a long time. Late in life he was appointed Prothonotary of one of the courts in the city of Philadelphia.

Timothy Matlack Bryan, Esq., his grandson, now living (1859), has in his possession, given to him by the family, in consequence of bearing his name, a silver urn, presented to Colonel Matlack by "The Committee of Safety of the City of Philadelphia," for his patriotic devotion to the cause of freedom, and the many services rendered by him during the entire struggle, and up to the acknowledgment of the independence of the Colonies by Great Britain, in the Treaty of Peace, Anno Domini 1783.

Indeed, Colonel Matlack was conspicuous in all the public measures of the War of 1776, was a popular and successful candidate to public offices; and finally, raised himself a respectable name and estate.

## REV. PHILIP F. MAYER, D.D.

REV. PHILIP F. MAYER, D.D., died in Philadelphia, April 16th, 1858, aged seventy-seven years. The above-named divine was pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. John, in Race Street, above Fifth. Mr. Mayer was, we believe, the oldest clergyman engaged in active ministerial duties in Philadelphia. He was much beloved by his congregation, and highly esteemed for his piety, his learning, and his many other admirable qualities, by people of all denominations.

Mr. Mayer was, we believe, a native of Auburn, New York, and resided in Albany previous to his coming to this city. He was over fifty years in the ministry, having preached his fiftieth anniversary sermon some time ago. He had been for many years President of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, President of the Philadelphia Dispensary, and a Trustee of the University of Pennsylvania.

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## MATTHEW MEASE.

MATTHEW MEASE was born in Strabane, County Tyrone, Ireland, and emigrated at an early age to America, settling in Philadelphia, where his uncle, John Mease, an eminent and wealthy merchant, resided. Though educated for a merchant, he entered the American Navy, and became Purser of the "Bonhomme Richard." In the desperate encounter between that vessel and the Serapis, Mr. Mease, not relishing the thought of being an idle spectator of the engagement, obtained from Paul Jones the command of the quarter-deck guns, which were served under him until he was carried below to the cock-pit dangerously wounded on the head by a splinter. He died in Philadelphia, in 1787.



## JOHN MEASE.

JOHN MEASE was born in Strabane, Ireland. He came to this country in the year 1754, and for many years was an eminent shipping merchant of Philadelphia. He was an early and an ardent friend to the cause of Independence, and one of the original members of the First Troop of City Cavalry. On the ever-memorable night of the 25th of December, 1776, he was one of twenty-four of that corps who crossed the Delaware with the troops under General Washington when the Hessians were captured.

Mr. Mease was one of five detailed to the service of keeping alive the fires along the line of the American encampment at Trenton to deceive the enemy, whilst the Americans marched by a private route to attack their rear-guard at Princeton. He served with the Troop until the end of the war, and suffered great loss of property in his warehouses and dwelling. For the last thirty years of his life he was one of the Admiralty Surveyors of the Port of Philadelphia, and died in 1826, at the advanced age of eighty-six. He subscribed four thousand pounds to supply the army in 1780. Mr. John Mease was the only man who continued in the latter days to wear the old three-cornered hat of the Revolution, and was familiarly called "The Last of the Cocked Hats."

John Adams, in a letter, dated 1774, says, he dined in Philadelphia with General Mifflin, Dr. Rush, John Dickinson, Mr. Chew, and John Mease.

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## JAMES MEASE, M.D.

BY THOMAS I. WHARTON.

DR. JAMES MEASE, the first Vice-President of the Philadelphia Athenæum, was a native of Philadelphia. He passed a long and active life in our midst, with credit to himself and advantage to his fellow-citizens. Dr. Mease was not very extensively engaged in the practice of his profession; but he possessed a competent

knowledge of it, and contributed to its improvement and refinement. He was the author or editor of a number of books; some of a local character, which have served to illustrate the history and statistics of his native place; others calculated to promote the cause of scientific agriculture, the moral and mental improvement of mechanics, and the general good of the community. An active member of the Philosophical Society, he contributed, by his writings and personal assistance, to many other institutions, scientific and literary; and, having paid his full share of that duty of beneficence which we all owe to the community in which we live, Dr. Mease died, at his residence in this city, on the 15th day of May, 1846, in the seventy-fifth year of his age.

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### JOHN MELISH.

JOHN MELISH, a geographer, was a native of Scotland; came to this country in 1809; and died at Philadelphia, December 30th, 1822, aged fifty-two years. He published "Travels in the United States, and in Great Britain and Canada," 2 vols. 8vo. 1812; "A Description of the Roads," &c., 1814; "A Travelling Directory," 1815; "Description of the United States," 1816; "Universal School Geography, and Atlas;" "The Necessity of Protecting Manufactures," 1818; "Maps of Pennsylvania and the United States;" "Information to Emigrants," 1819, &c.

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### WILLIAM MEREDITH.

WILLIAM MEREDITH was born at Philadelphia, on the 2d July, 1772, and was the second son of Jonathan and Elizabeth Meredith, natives of Great Britain.

William Meredith, after graduating at the University of Pennsylvania, commenced the study of the law, and was admitted to the Bar in September, 1795. In the same year he married Miss



Gertrude Gouverneur Ogden, a niece of Lewis Morris, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and of Gouverneur Morris. This lady, besides being a most faithful and devoted wife and mother, was a woman of great accomplishments and of remarkable intellectual power. Mr. Meredith and she were both contributors to "The Portfolio," then edited by Dennie, and formed part of the literary circle of which he was the centre.

Mr. Meredith continued in the active practice of his profession until the year 1814, when he was elected President of the Schuylkill Bank. He was for many years a member of the Common Council, and afterwards of the Select Council, and filled for some time the office of City Solicitor. He was an active member of the Episcopal Church, and sat for many years in its Diocesan and General Conventions. He was for a long period a Trustee of the University of Pennsylvania, a member of the American Philosophical Society, and a Director of the Academy of Fine Arts. He was also a member of the old Hand-in-Hand Fire Company, and for nearly five-and-twenty years of the Wistar Club. In 1828, Mrs. Meredith died, after a painful illness, and her loss so prostrated him that he never recovered the tone of his mind. In the summer of 1839 he was stricken by paralysis, of which he had had a slight attack in 1827. This second attack wholly shattered his powers, and deprived him of the faculty of intelligible speech. He lingered as it were between life and death until September, 1844, when he died, in the seventy-third year of his age.

A remarkable trait of Mr. Meredith was the conciliating courtesy of his deportment which was displayed in his intercourse with his fellow-citizens of every station and age, but more especially in the cultivation of those duties of a refined and gracious hospitality, too frequently neglected by men of his intellectual endowments and educational acquirements. He was in his elocution, private and public, a most agreeable speaker. His language was clear, chaste, and elegant, his person commanding and graceful, and there was a finish in all that he did or said which attracted attention and good will, while it commanded respect. Decided and firm in his own opinions, he was tolerant of differences of opinion in others. The circle of his friendships was always enlarging itself while he lived, and he never lost a friend except by death.

Robert Walsh, Esq. (an old and valued friend of Mr. Meredith), in his work called "Didactics," published in Philadelphia in 1836, speaks thus of Mrs. Meredith: "She was a mother capable of fully educating her children of both sexes—a wife, serving as the efficient counsellor and partner of her husband in all his duties and cares—a friend, anxiously reflecting, judging, feeling, acting, for those whom she honored with her regard—a member of the fashionable world, who assembled around her the gayest circles, and enlivened external entertainments, without ever losing an hour, or omitting an effort, material for the minute administration of a large family; a writer, who displayed a masculine vigor of thought and expression, and literary powers and acquisitions of uncommon value and variety; who wielded her pen without the least ambition or pride of authorship, yet with the utmost intentness, and any sacrifice of self when instruction or comfort could be conveyed, however privately or remotely. She made upon us, in the whole tenor of her arduous way, and the noble aim of her exertions, an impression like that which we received when following the sisters of the order of Charity through some of the European hospitals; but even the angelical aspect and course of their vocation do not raise so high an idea of excellence, as we derive from the picture of a matron who has filled all the destinies and energies, and consummated the probation of the sex."

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## REESE MEREDITH.

REESE MEREDITH was the father of Samuel Meredith, an eminent merchant of Philadelphia, the particular friend of General Washington. Although we have not the materials for a full biography of our subject, yet we are loath to pass by one so distinguished, by a sheer act of hospitality. Reese Meredith, a merchant of Philadelphia, seeing Washington at the Coffee-house, was so pleased with his personal demeanor as a genteel stranger, that he invited him home to dine with him on fresh venison. It formed a lasting friendship; and caused afterwards, it is said, the appointment of



another Meredith of his family, to be the first Treasurer of the Union. As this acquaintance was formed without formal introduction, it long remained a grateful recollection in Meredith's family, as a proof of his discernment. He was the father of the Treasurer, who became a man of large fortune.

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## THOMAS MIFFLIN.

THOMAS MIFFLIN was born in the city of Philadelphia, in the year 1744. His ancestors were of the Society of Friends, and among the earliest settlers of Pennsylvania, and of the most respectable class. He was a graduate in the College of Philadelphia, and was distinguished for classical scholarship and genius. He ever afterwards retained a fondness for literature, and was well acquainted with the best writers. He was intended by his parents for a merchant; and, after leaving college, was placed in one of our first counting-houses in the city. He subsequently made a voyage to Europe, and on his return entered into business with one of his brothers. His gay and generous temper, his extraordinary powers of conversation, with his frank and popular manners, made him, at a very early age, a decided favorite with his fellow-citizens. The city of Philadelphia was at that time represented in the State legislature by two burgesses, annually elected by the people. As the difficulties with the mother country were becoming serious and threatening, it was particularly important to advance to places of high public trust, men whose patriotic principles could be relied upon; and whose knowledge, talents, and force of character qualified them to serve the country faithfully and efficiently in the impending danger. Thomas Mifflin was elected in 1772, although but twenty-eight years of age, as one of the burgesses to represent the city, in the General Assembly of the State. Two years afterwards, he was appointed one of the delegates from the State to the first Congress.

The news of the battle of Lexington presented a noble and interesting opportunity for the display of his powers of eloquence.

Many addresses were delivered, such as the solemnity of the subject, and patriotism of the orators dictated ; but Mifflin, although the youngest of the speakers, took the bold and decisive ground of a steady adherence to the resolutions which were then offered and adopted.

Companies and regiments for the assertion and defence of American liberties and rights, were spontaneously formed, and Mifflin was appointed the Major of one of the regiments. To wait until danger came upon him, did not suit his ardent spirit ; he determined to seek it, and accordingly joined the camp then formed at Boston. He very soon distinguished himself there, by opposing a detachment of the British army, sent to collect cattle from the neighborhood. An officer of high rank, who was a witness of this proceeding, declared that he "never saw a greater display of personal bravery than was exhibited on this occasion, in the cool and intrepid conduct of Colonel Mifflin." A short time after the withdrawal of the British troops from Boston, Colonel Mifflin received from Congress the commission of Brigadier-General ; having previously performed, in a most satisfactory manner, the arduous duties of Quarter-master General. The high opinion which Congress entertained of the talents, judgment, and zeal in the great cause, of General Mifflin, was manifested by a resolution of 25th of May, 1776, appointing a committee to confer with General Washington, General Gates, and General Mifflin, "touching the frontiers towards Canada." To be associated with such men, in such a service, at the age of thirty-two, was a most gratifying honor.

In this gloomy state of the country, her leading and undaunted patriots determined to make an attempt to revive the spirit of the preceding year by personal appeals to the patriotism and honorable feelings of the people. The peculiar eloquence of General Mifflin was exactly what was wanted for this purpose, and he was directed to go into the counties of Pennsylvania "to exhort and rouse the militia to come forth in defence of their country." His selection for this service is mentioned by Marshall in his "Life of Washington," who says, that "the exertions of General Mifflin, who had been commissioned to raise the militia of Pennsylvania, though they made but little impression on the State at large, were attended

with some degree of success in Philadelphia. A large proportion of the inhabitants of that city had associated for the defence of their country; and on this occasion fifteen hundred of them marched to Trenton." General Washington had given up his design of marching to Princeton on receiving intelligence that Lord Cornwallis was rapidly advancing from Brunswick, and had passed the Delaware; the British then occupying Trenton. General Mifflin was again despatched to Philadelphia to take charge of the numerous stores in that place. Congress also declared that they deemed it of great importance to the general safety that "General Mifflin should make a progress through several of the counties of the State of Pennsylvania, to rouse the freemen thereof to the immediate defence of the city and country;" and they resolved "that the Assembly be requested to appoint a committee of their body to make the tour with him, and assist in this good and necessary work." General Mifflin cheerfully accepted this highly important mission, and executed it with his usual ability and zeal. He assembled the people at convenient places, and poured forth his exciting eloquence in meeting-houses, churches, and court-houses; from pulpits sacred to the office of religion, and from the judgment seats of the law. The battle of Princeton, in January, 1777, immediately followed these exertions; and the victories of Trenton and Princeton may be considered as having assured and sealed American Independence. General Mifflin was present at Princeton, and makes a conspicuous figure in Colonel Trumbull's painting of that memorable conflict. In the following February, Congress raised General Mifflin to the rank of Major-General.

Although the health of General Mifflin was considerably impaired by his constant and various labors in the military service of his country, he continued in it to the end of the war; and he enjoyed, with his co-laborers in the great work, the unspeakable happiness of seeing the independence of his country firmly and forever established. He had maintained and augmented the attachment of his fellow-citizens to him, and, in 1783, was appointed by the Legislature of Pennsylvania a member of Congress. By that illustrious body of true American patriots, he was, in the fall of the same year, elevated to the seat of their President. In this capacity, he received from General Washington the resignation of his commis-

sion of Commander-in-chief of the American army. It was his duty to reply to the address of Washington on this august occasion, which, in all its interesting circumstances, has no parallel in the history of human affairs. Both addresses were such as would be expected from the respective officers.

In 1785, General Mifflin was chosen a member of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, and elected the Speaker of that body. In 1788, he became President of the Supreme Executive Council of the State, under the Constitution of that day. In 1787, the great Convention assembled at Philadelphia to frame a government for the United States (then sinking into anarchy and ruin because they had no government), which should "form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity." In this illustrious assembly, General Mifflin was one of the representatives of Pennsylvania.

Soon after the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, a Convention was called by the people of Pennsylvania to reform their plan of government. Of this Convention General Mifflin was the President. He had, as he had shown when Speaker of the House of Assembly, an unusual fitness for presiding over such assemblies. He was prompt and decisive, and exercised his authority with dignity and impartiality. When the Constitution, formed and adopted by this Convention, went into operation, General Mifflin was elected the first Governor, in whose hands the whole executive power of the State was placed, and he continued to hold the office by re-elections for the whole constitutional term, to wit, nine years.

In 1794, in the midst of the excitement about French affairs, and not without some connection with it, an insurrection broke out in some of the western counties of Pennsylvania, immediately inflamed by the imposition of certain internal taxes, particularly that on whiskey. The Government of the United States, whose laws were thus defied and opposed by force, was obliged to take the field to quell the insurgents. On the call of the President, Governor Mifflin marched at the head of the quota of militia demanded of Pennsylvania; and putting aside all the pride of rank and etiquette, served under General Lee, the Governor of Virginia, who had been inferior to Governor Mifflin in rank in the army of the



war of the Revolution, and although the service to be performed was in Governor Mifflin's own State.

Governor Mifflin took his leave of the Legislature on the 7th of December, 1799; and having been elected a member of the House of Representatives, he took his seat in that assembly. His health was now exceedingly impaired; he had frequent attacks of the gout, which generally struck at his stomach. After a short confinement, he died on the 20th of January, 1800, at Lancaster, at that time the seat of government. Resolutions were passed by the Legislature, expressive of the high sense entertained of his public services as a soldier and a statesman. His interment was provided for at the public expense, and a monument erected to his memory.

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## LIEUTENANT-COLONEL SAMUEL MILLER.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL SAMUEL MILLER, of the United States Marine Corps, who died at his residence in Philadelphia on Sunday, December 9th, 1855, was one of the most gallant officers in the service of the United States. Having reached the advanced age of eighty-one years, he has not lately been in active service; but his bravery in the earlier portion of his life is part of our national history. During the last war with Great Britain he commanded a moving battery at St. Leonard's Creek, which rendered much service in opposing the British approach upon Washington. At Bladensburg, he fought with unsurpassed bravery, receiving a severe wound while commanding the Marines, who were exposed to the fiercest attacks of the enemy. In the Indian wars, in Alabama and Florida, he was active and useful at the most trying times. After that, he was placed in command of the Philadelphia station, and during a long residence here, he won the affectionate regard of all who can appreciate the noblest private character united to all that is chivalrous in the soldier. When the Mexican war began, although past the age of three-score and ten, he offered his services to the Government; but regard for the declining years of a patriot who had already done all that



man could do for his country, induced the Government to permit him to remain in quiet for the rest of his life. His death was mourned by a large circle of friends in this city, and his numerous companions in arms, in all parts of the country, have heard of it with grief.

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## DR. J. A. MONGES.

BY J. G. NANCREDE, M.D.

DIED, on the 20th of May, 1827, in the sixty-ninth year of his age, Dr. John Armentaire Monges, a member of the Royal Academy of Medicine of Madrid, formerly of the Island of St. Domingo, and for the last thirty-four years an eminent practitioner of the city of Philadelphia.

Dr. Monges was born of respectable parents at Thoremбasse, Department of Var (formerly of Provence), in France. At a very early age he commenced the study of medicine, under the direction of a physician of eminence of Marseilles, the capital of Provence. Having devoted the usual period of his preparatory studies, he solicited and obtained admission as house surgeon in the Royal Marine Hospital at Rochefort, where, after a short residence, he was induced, in the year 1781, to accept the situation of surgeon to a ship of war proceeding to this country, then engaged in her eventful struggle for independence. It appears that he continued attached to the French naval force, at that period stationed on our coast, until the conclusion of the war, and that he afterwards remained in the United States until the year 1785. It was during this residence that he performed a journey through the interior of Pennsylvania, &c., to New Orleans, with a view to a settlement in Louisiana; but, not finding it suitable to his views, he determined on proceeding to the French West Indies, and arrived at St. Domingo, in the year 1785.

Until his arrival here, in 1793, he had never seen a case of yellow fever; and, consequently, was as unprepared as any other

physician to treat the disease. Nevertheless, his success in the management of it was so great as to give rise to an unfounded assertion, contained in a highly respectable work, lately published in Paris, that "Dr. Monges had visited about three hundred persons affected with yellow fever, and only lost one child." Upon reading this statement, immediate steps were taken by him to contradict an assertion so absurd, and its author was subsequently brought to a fair recantation.

To his profession, the successful career of Dr. Monges offers the rare though encouraging example of a good man and a respectable physician, who, supported by his industry and merit alone, without the adventitious aid of wealth, of family influence and connections, or of sectarian patronage, attained the highest standing in his profession, and secured to his memory the approbation of the just.

As the disease to which the subject of these observations had long been a victim, presents some features of interest, it is thought proper to state cursorily its prominent symptoms.

In the winter of 1798, Dr. Monges became affected with pneumonia, which was not so considered at first. At the end of five days it had become too late to combat the disease successfully, and it gradually assumed a chronic form. His cough was constant, though not as incessant during summer as in winter, but his extraordinary and unexampled expectoration, which was unabated by depletion, or the increase of any other secretion, and which, in fact, having lasted for so long a portion of his life, might be considered as a new secretion, which the system required, still remained a most astonishing characteristic of his disease. Perspiration for many years had become extremely rare; in the warmest days of summer, though covered with flannel, it was to him an unusual visitor. As long as he was enabled to walk with some degree of strength, no œdema was perceptible; but after his long confinement, during his last winter, it made considerable progress, and even reached the abdomen. Towards spring, increased difficulty of breathing, and other concomitant symptoms, induced him to announce the presence of hydrothorax. Subsequently, he complained much of pain in the right side, and once more resorted to his custom of dry cupping. His difficulty of breathing and expectoration became more and more difficult, until his death.

## HORATIO NEWTON MOORE.

(From the Sunday Dispatch.)

WE heard with deep regret of the death, on Friday last, the 26th of August, 1859, of Horatio N. Moore, of this city, a gentleman whose friendship was warmly enjoyed by all who had an opportunity of cultivating it. Mr. Moore had genius and taste, and, had he devoted himself to literary pursuits, he would have occupied the high place among the literati of the country, which was within his reach, but which he only failed to attain by abandoning the effort, and directing his energies to other occupations. At the early age of nineteen, Mr. Moore composed his first important work, "Orlando, or Woman's Virtue," a tragedy, which was published by Turner & Fisher. This tragedy was followed by "The Regicide," a five act tragedy. Neither of these were acted. They are as compositions fair, but not superior; the bent of Mr. Moore's mind was of a different cast. At a later period, he produced his widely-known romance, "Mary Morris," a story fascinating in interest and style, which at once attracted attention, and achieved a popularity that was remarkable. No story of a local character achieved a worthier success. It has been published many times, in various newspapers and periodicals throughout the Union, and is one of those romances that never becomes old. The charm of this story is the lively movement of the incidents, the interweaving of character with actions and passions, so that the interest is kept up with absorbing effect. "Mary Morris" was followed by "The Groomsman," "The Marriage Certificate," "The Heart Overtasked," "Two Months Married," "Fitzgerald and Hopkins," "The Reign of Terror," and other romances, some of which have been published in book form, and are standard stories.

A few years ago Mr. Moore wrote for the "Sunday Dispatch," what was probably his last novelette, "Right and Wrong." Many of our readers, no doubt, remember this tale as one of unusual power and interest. We think it one of the best that he ever wrote. In the latter part of his career, Mr. Moore seemed to be gradually passing from the realm of fiction into that of fact. He

has written a "Life of General Marion," and a "Life of General Wayne," both of which were published by Mr. Perry, of this city. We recollect him as the writer of a very curious memoir of those famous refugees, the Doanes, who terrified our grandfathers. His letters, giving an account of their feats, were published in the "Boston Museum," running through several numbers. The death of this genial and amiable gentleman will be widely lamented. He was one of nature's noblemen: generous, gentle-hearted, and honorable in every aspiration. Mr. Moore was a native of New Jersey, and was but forty-five years old at the time of his sudden death from disease of the heart.



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### JOHN MORGAN, M.D., F.R.S.

JOHN MORGAN, M.D., F.R.S., a learned physician, was born in Philadelphia, in 1735. When he had completed the study of physic, under the care of Dr. Redman, he entered into the service of his country as a surgeon and lieutenant, with the provincial troops, in the last war which was carried on against the French in America. He acquired both skill and reputation as a surgeon in the army. In the year 1760, he went to Europe to prosecute his studies in medicine. After attending the lectures of William Hunter, he spent two years at Edinburgh, where he received the instructions of Monro, Cullen, Rutherford, Whyt, and Hope. He then published an elaborate thesis upon the formation of pus, and was admitted to the degree of Doctor of Medicine. From Edinburgh, he went to Paris. He also visited Holland and Italy.

During his absence, he concerted with Dr. Shippen the plan of a medical school in Philadelphia, and on his arrival, in 1765, was immediately elected Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in the College of that city. He soon delivered his plan of connecting a medical school with the College. In 1769, he saw the fruits of his labors, for in that year five young gentlemen received the first honors in medicine that were conferred in America. He was active in establishing the American Philosophical Society, in



1769. In 1773, he went to Jamaica to solicit benefactions for the advancement of general literature in the College. In October, 1775, he was appointed by Congress Director-General and Physician-in-chief to the General Hospital of the American Army, in the place of Dr. Church. He immediately repaired to Cambridge; but, in 1777, he was removed from his office without an opportunity to vindicate himself. The dissensions between the surgeons of the General Hospital and of the regiments, and other circumstances, gave rise to calumnies against him. After his removal, he presented himself before a Committee of Congress, appointed by his request, and was honorably acquitted. He died October 15th, 1789, aged fifty-three years. His successor in the professor's chair was Dr. Rush. He published "*Tentamen medicum de puris confectione*, 1763;" "A Discourse upon the Institution of Medical Schools in America, 1765;" "Four Dissertations on the Reciprocal Advantages of a Perpetual Union between Great Britain and her American Colonies, 1766;" "A Recommendation of Inoculation, 1776;" "A Vindication of his Public Character in the Station of Director-General, &c."

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## ROBERT MORRIS.

BY WILLIAM BROTHERHEAD.

ROBERT MORRIS, the great financier of the Revolution, was born in Lancashire, England, in January, O. S., 1733. His father was a Liverpool merchant, and was engaged extensively in the American trade, and when Robert was but thirteen years of age his father emigrated, and brought him to this country, and settled at Oxford, on the Eastern Shore of Chesapeake Bay. Robert was educated by the Rev. William Gorton of Maryland, for a period of two years. An event occurred at this period which caused him to be left an orphan in a foreign land. His father was killed by the accidental discharge of a gun from a ship in Delaware Bay. His education was not very extensive. On one occasion his father chided him for his tardiness in learning, when he remarked, "Why,



sir, I have learned all he could teach me." Robert being a boy of a strong mind and of good discretion, he soon enlisted the good opinions of those that knew him. Mr. Charles Willing, then one of the most distinguished merchants in this city, took him into his counting-house, and, by his good conduct, when he became of age, he was established in business with his son, Thomas Willing. Mr. Willing had a high opinion of Robert Morris. It is stated that Mr. Willing said on his death-bed, "Robert, always continue to act as you have done." In 1754, the partnership of Robert Morris with Mr. Thomas Willing took place, and it soon became the most extensive importing house in Philadelphia.

This firm did a large West India trade. At this time Philadelphia was the city of the Union; and it was to such firms that it was indebted to its pre-eminent position. The difficulties of navigation in the Delaware (if there are any) were as plentiful then as now; and a retrospect of our history, we are sorry to affirm, attests a depreciation of commercial enterprise. Mr. Morris made several voyages in one of their ships as supercargo; and, in course of one of these voyages, he was taken prisoner by a French man-of-war, and was for some time kept in close confinement. He was, however, liberated, and being a good mechanic, he directed his attention to the cleaning and repairing of watches; and, by this means, obtained money to return to Philadelphia, where he resumed his station. The foreign business of this firm became of the most extensive character; their punctuality and integrity obtained them credit in all parts of the world.

Mr. Morris, about the age of thirty-six, married the sister of the late Bishop White. She has been described as "elegant, accomplished, and rich, and well qualified to carry the felicity of connubial life to its highest perfection."

In 1772 was instituted "The St. George's Society for the Assistance of Englishmen in Distress." Robert Morris was one of the originators of this benevolent Society, that has done so much and is yet doing much good for distressed Englishmen. He was Vice-President from 1772 to 1778; and from 1789 to 1796 he was President of that Society.\* When they met together at the City

\* Historical Sketch of the Society of the Sons of St. George of Philadelphia, 1857, p. 11.

Tavern, to celebrate the anniversary of St. George, on the 23d April, 1775, the company were thrown into consternation at the reception of the news of the battle of Lexington. Robert Morris, Esq., was the presiding officer on that occasion, and his presence could not control the agitation of the members; many withdrew with precipitation from the table, and gloom and despondency all at once succeeded to festivity and rejoicing. The meetings of the Society were but thinly attended after this event.

The firm of Willing & Morris worked actively and zealously for the Non-importation Articles of Agreement, after the Stamp Act and the Tea Act were inflicted on this country. This measure of not importing anything from the mother country had a powerful effect upon Parliament, and led to the modification of several stringent measures.

At the close of the year 1775 his public life commenced. He was then sent as a delegate to the General Congress, and he was placed upon the "Secret Committee." This committee was analogous to the "secret service money" of the present day; it was then, as it is now, deemed impolitic to publish any of its proceedings.

"In the spring of 1776," says Irving, "Congress chose him a special commissioner to negotiate bills of exchange, and to take other measures to procure money for the Government."

When Congress removed to Baltimore, in 1776, Mr. Morris was left in this city with Messrs. Clymer and Walton, to remain as long as circumstances would permit, and transact such business as they deemed necessary.

Mr. Morris was elected to Congress on the 18th of July, 1776, after the Declaration of Independence was adopted, and he being in favor of the measure, affixed his signature to that immortal document on the 2d of August following.

This was a crisis that filled the stoutest hearts with terror and dismay. England used all the best resources at her control to suppress this "rebel mob," and the leaders were all marked men, and prices had been set upon their heads. But the crisis brought forth men fully able to cope with the most extreme exigencies of the case, and at this time Washington required material aid in the shape of money to pay those whose time of service had expired. Morris saw that Washington's army was half naked and half

famished, and that money alone would save them. During the retreat of Washington's army across New Jersey, at the close of 1776, Morris borrowed on his own note ten thousand dollars, which was acknowledged by Washington on the 1st of January, 1777. This timely act enabled Washington to collect together his gallant band of patriots, and he recrossed the Delaware, and gained the glorious victory at Trenton. It is stated that, on this occasion, Washington wrote to Morris in imploring terms to raise some money. It was at this special time very difficult to do so. He came out of his counting-house, and on his way he met a wealthy Quaker, John Morton, first President of the Bank of North America, and he told him he wanted money for the army. Mr. Morton asked him what security he could give; he replied, "My note and my honor." The Quaker promptly replied, "Robert, thou shalt have it." It was known that money had been advanced to Morris, but the name of the loaner has been suppressed up to this day, because it is contrary to the principles of the Quakers to advance money for war purposes. John Morton forbid his family mentioning this circumstance, and it is now first published.

"The situation of General Greene in South Carolina was equally critical, his distresses rendering it scarcely possible to keep the troops together; when a gentleman of that State advanced the necessary sums, and enabled him to avert the danger. When General Greene returned to Philadelphia, and repaired to the office of finance to settle his accounts after the war terminated, he found he had been relieved under the direction of Mr. Morris. He felt at first the apparent want of confidence in him; but, on reflection, he told Mr. Morris he had never done a wiser thing; 'for,' said he, 'on other occasions I was sufficiently distressed to have warranted my drawing on you, had I known I might have done so, and I should have availed myself of the privilege.'"

Our respected friend, Mr. Breck, of revolutionary memory, has kindly furnished us with the valuable and cotemporary history of Robert Morris, by the late lamented Judge Peters. This valuable information is conveyed in a letter, dated Belmont, 12th January, 1818, and addressed to General W. H. Harrison. After some preliminary matters in regard to the personal history of the Judge, he thus states: "In the Journals of Congress, July, 1781, you

will see that a member of the Board of War was directed to repair to headquarters with the Superintendent of Finance (Mr. Morris), and consult with the Commander-in-chief on the subjects therein mentioned. The member of the Board was myself. This business, by-the-by, is the one mentioned in a private letter from General Gates to me; published, very disagreeably to me, by General Wilkinson, without my consent or previous knowledge. He has declared that he procured it, or a copy, out of General Gates's letter-book, and not from me, who never subjected myself to the reproach of showing such letters. To show the prostrate situation of our pecuniary concerns, I mention that I had not in the chest of the office, without interfering with the daily common demands for contingencies, a sufficient sum for my outfit and personal expenses. Not foreseeing any extra claims for casualties, I had not provided out of my own funds against them. At Trenton (on our way to camp), I lost a horse. I could have ordered one out of the Quarter-master's stables; but I avoided the example, knowing the low state of that department. I was obliged to borrow of Mr. Morris the money necessary to replace my loss. On our arrival at headquarters we had frequent conferences with the General [Washington]. I was now confirmed in what I had before been convinced of, that our success in the contemplated attack on New York was far worse than doubtful; but that was the plan of the campaign, notwithstanding historical representations to the contrary. Among them I see recently published, 'A Project of Compté Rochambeau,' announcing his having a long time previously, formed a deliberate plan for the fortunate achievement which closed our war. And yet I know that the change of the plan at first fixed on for the campaign was sudden and accidental; all our conferences were predicated on measures solely relating to the intended attack on New York, in which I claim no share of arrangements purely military, nor in those which the sudden change produced.

"One morning, at the beat of reveille, Mr. Morris and myself (who occupied the same marquee) were roused by a messenger from headquarters, and desired forthwith to repair thither. We were surprised at the circumstance, everything having been the evening before perfectly tranquil. We were more so on our meeting the



General, who, the moment he saw me, with expressions of intemperate passion (which I will not repeat), handed to me a letter from the French Admiral, who commanded six or seven ships at Rhode Island. 'Here,' said the General, 'read this; you understand the French;' and, turning away, 'so do I now better than ever.' Mr. M. and myself stood silent, and not a little astonished; though I was not displeased with the change, the scene was so strikingly singular that I shall never forget it. The letter informed the General that the writer had received by an express frigate, arrived from the fleet of Comte de Grasse at sea, orders to join that fleet in the Chesapeake, as the Admiral had changed his destination for New York, on information that the New York bay was dangerous for his heavy ships; and if anything could be done in the southern quarters, co-operation was offered during the few weeks of his intended stay in those waters, to avoid the West India hurricane season. Secresy was enjoined, and we went our way. On returning to breakfast, we found the General as composed as if nothing extraordinary had happened, and measures concocting for the emergency. I had often (for I knew him from early life) admired these conquests over himself. That evening, or, I think, the next day, a letter arrived from the Marquis de la Fayette (from Virginia), announcing the arrival of the French fleet in the Chesapeake. I have seen it asserted that this was the first intimation; and an appearance of a preconcerted plan was given to it in camp. This is another inaccurate historical fact. In the course of the day I was asked by the General, 'Well, what can you do for us, under the present change of circumstances?' I answered, 'Please to inform me of the extent of your wants.'

"Being after some time so informed generally, 'I can do everything with money, nothing without it;' but what can be transported from hence, must be relied on. I looked impressively on Mr. Morris, who said: 'I understand you; I must have time to consider, to calculate.' Having so done, Mr. M. candidly stated his situation; having only promised support, but little tangible effects from it. He, however, agreed that, if anticipations, on the credit of his personal engagements would succeed, he could supply the means, but in no other way.

"In a day or two we left camp under injunctions of secresy,



which we faithfully observed, until the General developed his final objects and measures to Congress. Captain Dayton, the last speaker, escorted us with a corps of horse through a short and dangerous route towards Philadelphia. I set to work most industriously and marked the object for a time. By the zeal and extraordinary efforts of the staff department, particularly that of ordnance and military stores, sixty pieces of battering cannon, and a greater number of field artillery, were completely provided and furnished in three or four weeks; and, as any portion of the train was ready, sent off on their way for the Southern enterprise. Not a single gun was mounted on my arrival at Philadelphia, nor a rammer, nor a sponge, or other article, nor any considerable quantity of fixed ammunition provided. We had chiefly the materials, but no money to enable us to put them together. No European magazine or arsenal could have done more in the time and under the circumstances. General Knox, who arrived in twelve or fourteen days, had a great share of the merit of this effort. Mr. Morris supplied the money or the credit; and without derogation from the merit of the assistance rendered by the State authorities, it may truly be said that the financial means furnished by him were the main-springs of transportation and supplies for the glorious achievements which effectually secured our independence, and furnished the foundation of the present prosperous and happy condition of our nation. He issued his notes for, I think, 1,400,000 dollars. They passed freely and at the value of specie, and were in time all redeemed. The Bank of North America, which he founded with money supplied from abroad, and on the credit of his particular friends and many other good friends to their country, assisted him most eminently. We gave our securities to the amount of a great proportion of its capital stock. My bond was returned to me only a few years ago; and so were, I presume, all other bonds. Who, then, knowing all those things, can doubt of his having been among the most eminent and the most prominent saviours of his country?"

Such a certificate from a man of such high judicial standing as Judge Peters, who was a co-worker in the Revolution, and who saw the man in every variety of position, will place Robert Morris henceforth on the very highest pinnacle of Revolutionary fame, next to Washington. Morris furnished the sinews of war, and Washington

carried them into successful operation. Without Morris, Washington could not have carried out his plans; and it is not too much to assert that, at the period when Judge Peters and Morris were called on by Washington to assist him, that if the money had not been forthcoming, Washington would not have been successful against the British. Then henceforth let us reverently pay our homage to this silent but successful coadjutor of Washington, and hold him up to the mirror of future ages as an honorable, high-minded patriot, who adhered to the fortunes of his country through its darkest phases, and who could not be tempted by offers, however large, to sacrifice one iota of its independence.

The Revolution being fairly on the way, money now became of as much importance as the valor of our soldiers, and the determination of our countrymen to free themselves from a foreign yoke.

In 1781, the darkest period of our country, when war, with its thousand trains of evil, was hovering about, and person and property were at the mercy of the avenging enemy, who did not scruple at any means, however vile, to crush the hopes and fortunes of thousands, Robert Morris was called to bear an important part in the formation of a national bank, by being called on by the Government to be the financial agent of the United States; or, in briefer terms, to be Secretary of the Treasury. As a proof of his great financiering abilities, it is stated that, before he was chosen financier to the Government, it cost \$18,000,000 a year to carry it on; but, while under him, it only cost \$5,000,000. The intellectual colossus of the Revolution, Alexander Hamilton, saw that such means must be used, or the country would sink into a weaker vassalage than before. It was wisely done, and the credit of the United States assumed at once and for the first time claims as a national creditor. Her claims were heeded, but solely through the influence of Morris. Had it not been for him, the Continental Army would have been disbanded by its own act.

At the conclusion of peace he resigned, November 1st, 1784, the offices of Minister of Finance and Marine, which he had held from September, 1781.

At the conclusion of the peace he was elected twice a member of the State Legislature, and he was a delegate to the Convention

that framed the Constitution of the United States. He was a United States Senator of the First Congress. When Washington chose his cabinet, he so valued the services of Mr. Morris that he offered to him the office of Secretary of the Treasury, but he respectfully declined it ; but Washington still wishing to honor him, desired him to name a candidate, when he named Alexander Hamilton.

Mr. Morris served a full term as United States Senator, when, in 1795, he retired from public life.

Now we come to a dark epoch in the life of this great man. His evil star seemed to gain the ascendancy, and his great business tact seemed overwhelmed by a series of misfortunes, which totally paralyzed his mind. It is not strange that a man like Morris, who had brought his country through the greatest tribulation in money matters, should have an unbounded confidence in his own merits, and an unlimited belief in the forbearance of those whom he had been instrumental in dragging out of slavery into liberty. But Morris forgot what men of less talents know, that there are vultures in society ; Shylocks, who value man no more than the amount of money they can pilfer out of him by exactions. So it was with him. In 1794 he was President of "The Asylum Company." He began with John Nicholson to speculate largely in wild lands in 1795. On the 20th of February, 1795, the North American Land Company was formed by Robert Morris, John Nicholson, of this city, and James Greenleaf, of the city of New York. The capital stock of the Company was to consist of six millions and forty-three and one-quarter of acres (6,000,043 $\frac{1}{4}$ ) of land in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. This land was sold in shares ; 508 shares were sold to 49 subscribers ; each certificate entitling the holder to 200 acres of land. We might give a long detail of the affairs of this Company, but suffice it to say, that Morris and Nicholson were ruined by their connection with Greenleaf, and it is to him their downfall must be attributed.\*

\* See Argument of Edward S. Lawrance, Esq., one of the counsel for the estates of Robert Morris and John Nicholson, deceased, *coram* J. A. Philips, Esq., Auditor, concerning the distribution of \$92,071 87 in the hands of James Dundas and Benjamin Kugler, surviving managers of the North American Land Company, per their account filed in the Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of Philadelphia, 1859.

There scarcely was any great improvement, or large schemes brought into notice, but Robert Morris was one whose influence was always sought. In 1791 he was the President of the Schuylkill, Susquehanna, and Delaware Canal Company, one of the first and greatest improvements introduced into this State. There can be but little doubt that the position of Morris in the Revolution threw him into such a vortex of public confidence that he, mortal as he was, forgot that success could continue in his business only with discretion and his previous good judgment. No scheme, however great, seemed large enough for his comprehension after the financial success of the Revolution. There can be but little doubt that if it had been possible for the South Sea Scheme, the Mississippi Bubble, the Multicaulis, and the great Railway Mania of 1845, to have occurred during his lifetime, he would have been one of the head movers of such gigantic schemes. It is a too common fault with men who have been brilliantly successful in business to trust after a short interval to the *eclat* of their success, rather than to a determined perseverance. This was Robert Morris's evil genius. He undertook more than any single man could look after; and it unfortunately happened to him that one of those men in whom he had placed unlimited confidence ruined him, either intentionally or otherwise. Such a lamentable example of fallen greatness ought to teach other business men the folly of attempting to do more than one can personally superintend.

One of the great mistakes of his life was the building, of what was termed "Morris's Folly." In 1795 (only three years before he was in prison), he determined on building a residence commensurate with his distinguished position. In the first place, he purchased Norris's pasture-field, and afterwards intended to purchase the Continental Yard; these plots of ground lying between Seventh and Eighth Streets, and Chestnut and Walnut Streets. Here he purposed building a house, which for magnificence was to be the model for Americans. It so happened that at this time an architect of the name of Major L'Enfant, a Frenchman, was somewhat distinguished in his profession. Morris on this occasion, as on all others, felt determined to have the best of everything, and he engaged him to draw plans for his intended mansion; and the Major, who must have been laboring under some delusion, stated



that this grand edifice could be built for \$60,000. Morris did not reflect for a moment on the foolishness of so small a sum, but he ordered the Major to commence what he never finished. Morris sold some property to commence this grand delusion,—to build a magnificent marble hall for \$60,000. The building was commenced some fifty feet back from the line of Chestnut Street, and was placed midway between Seventh and Eighth Streets. The cellars alone for this great work—of which some were three stories under ground; and there was a complete labyrinth of passages, in which, if rumor is true, many persons were actually lost—this portion of the work alone exhausted the \$60,000. Morris, nevertheless, persevered; he found more money, and the building slowly progressed two stories high; the roof was put on, and then the powers of Morris were exhausted, and the building, like himself, became afterwards a mere wreck. He had imported the most costly furniture; and began to beautify it with classic statuary; but, alas for human ambition! before it was finished, it was sold by the sheriff, and bought by Mr. William Sansom, a then wealthy Quaker. Thomas Billington bought the building materials; and he took this magnificent failure down in 1799, when poor Morris was suffering in a prison, where yellow fever was hurrying its victims to a premature grave. The marble decorations were scattered among different buildings in the city; the most prominent were the fine alto relievo tablets, which were placed in semicircles over the windows in the wings of the late Chestnut Street Theatre.

There are always a certain class of persons ready to rejoice at the defeat of a great man's plans. If he attempts greatness, and, no matter what virtues he may possess, is knocked down by misfortune, they will trample on him, malign him, and finally crush him by their weight. Such was Morris's fate. Every one spoke of his towering ambition, and said it was a visitation of God upon him for his daring wickedness. Idle reports flew, like scandal always does, faster than truth; but God, who has made virtue at all times superior to wickedness, though not immediately manifested, caused Robert Morris to rise in the estimation of all intelligent men, to be considered as a man of great and good powers; and he is now revered and honored by all lovers of liberty.

For a period of ten years, from 1787 to 1798, he seems to have



been in a whirlpool of trouble; and then the end came,—his imprisonment. We have, after a persevering search among the records of the Courts, found the time when Morris was imprisoned. The first commitment made out against him, was at the suit of John Ely, on the 17th of January, 1798, when he was in the custody of the sheriff; but on the following day, the 18th, John Bell issued out another commitment, when he was *non est inventus*. Why this is so, can only be supposed, that John Ely told the sheriff not to arrest him, or some arrangement was made after the commitment was made out. We have letters of Morris in our possession, after this time, dated at the Hills,—his country residence at Bush Hill. We will give part of one letter, which shows the extreme anguish of his mind, and his dread of going to prison. In this letter will be seen, that Morris felt determined to do all he could for his creditors, and especially for those who had been made poor through him. In this letter, dated January 31st, 1798, he says:—

“My mind is so much disturbed about going to prison, that I do not get along with business. Indeed, I hardly think it worth while to submit any longer to the drudgery of it; for if I am once locked up by anybody but myself, I shall consider my ruin as sealed; and if so, why should I any longer submit to the racks and tortures occasioned by the importunities and insatiable avarice of creditors that I never knew, or dealt with? I will not do it; but if I keep my present position, my exertions shall be continued to make the most of my affairs, in the hope of paying everything, and of having a suitable surplus for the benefit of my family. . . . But to return to John Allen. Are you quiet because he is? Remember, that every day he is silent, accumulates force to his claim. It will come like thunder soon, and my family will feel that event with a force that will break through all restraint; but above all, this same Mr. Allen ought, upon every principle, to have his money. I have been obliged to raise and pay \$300 for dividends on the North American Land Company's shares. I would rather have bought hay and bread with the money, but durst not.”

Still later, in a note written to John Nicholson, from the Hills, he thus states:—

"HILLS, February 5th, 1798.

"DEAR SIR:—

"I got safe here, and found it the only place of calmness and quiet my foot was in all yesterday; it has made me more averse to the city than ever, and I detest Prune Street more than ever; therefore, keep me from it, if possible, my dear friend.

"ROBERT MORRIS.

"TO JOHN NICHOLSON, Esq."

Our venerated friend, W. B. Wood, Esq., in his interesting autobiography, has made an error of date which we are desirous of correcting. It led us astray in our inquiries, and it may lead others, unless it is corrected; and we are sure he will not feel that we are doing him any wrong to correct by record a mistake he made by memory only. He there states that when he was in prison, in 1797, Morris was there, and he details a little conversation that took place. By referring to the records of the Supreme Court of this city, it will be seen that in June Term, 1798, No. 195, he was then committed, and not in 1797. Though the first commitment was made out for Morris on the 18th of January, 1798, yet it is certain he was not in prison before the February following, as the records show in the interval he was *non est inventus*. But on the 20th of February he was in prison, for we find a letter dated the 20th of February, 1798, addressed to John Nicholson, in which he says, "Dear Sir: My confinement has so far been attended with disagreeable and uncomfortable circumstances; for having no particular place allotted for me, I feel myself an intruder in every place in which I go. I sleep on other persons' beds, I occupy other people's rooms; and if I attempt to sit down to write, it is at the interruption and inconvenience of some one who has acquired a prior right to the place. I am trying daily to get a room for a high rent, and now have a prospect of succeeding. I am now writing in a room which is the best in the house, and hope to have complete possession in a day or two, then I can set up a bed, and introduce such furniture and conveniences as will make me comfortable." Morris's correspondence with John Nicholson is very extensive, and shows the state of his mind, which was both grave and gay. In a letter dated July 20th, 1798, he humorously says, "As

to offering your composition to W. T., I know not what he can do with it, unless you mean to compose a poem, not like H. Marshall's on 'Aliens,' but like J. Greenleaf on 'Foreign Relations.'" In another letter, dated September 29th, 1798, in speaking of the yellow fever, which was then raging in this city, he says, "Our prisoners are gone, except the sick, Banks, Rittenhouse, and myself. Poor Dick is very ill, and they begin to say he is to die. . . . They all have the fever, but still I am not alarmed, although in the house with it. I keep up stairs and avoid all intercourse as much as I can. I have written to William not to come to-morrow." We might fill a volume with interesting letters from Morris during the time he was in prison, but in the brief space we have in this work it cannot be allowed. From February, 1798, until the passage of the United States Bankrupt Law, in 1802, a period of four years, Robert Morris suffered in prison. We applied to our venerated friend, Mr. Breck, who was a personal friend of Mr. Morris, and in his letter to us, dated July 28th, 1859, he says, "He was kept a prisoner there (Prune Street Prison) for four years, during which time I visited him twice. Mrs. Morris, by the will of her friend, Gouverneur Morris, of New York, had obliged the Holland Land Company, that purchased Mr. Robert Morris's Genesee lands, to grant her a life annuity of two thousand dollars, I think, before she would consent to sign certain papers, where her name was indispensable in the negotiation of the sale of said lands. When her husband left Prune Street Prison, he joined her small establishment in Twelfth Street between Market and Chestnut, and there he died. I had the honor of being the guest of that great man before his fall, both at his dinner and evening parties, and entertained for him the highest respect and kindest regard."

Such is the opinion of one of our most respected citizens, who lived during the Revolution, who was an actor in it, and whose word has always been entitled to the highest credit. It has often been said that republics are ungrateful, but if so, it was never more forcibly manifested than in the case of Robert Morris. That Morris possessed weaknesses, none can for a moment doubt; but did not his invaluable services to his country, in the hour of her greatest peril, entitle him to much consideration and pecuniary assistance, when it is well known that some portion of his liabilities were made at

the time he was acting for and assisting the Government? There is at the present day but one reply,—that he was one whom the Government ought not to have left subject to the wanton sport of his money creditors. If such a case had to transpire in any of the European Governments, special laws, or appropriations of money, would have been made rather than such a man should suffer from slight pecuniary indebtedness. If a man in a family had been one of its most valuable assistants, but who has been overtaken by misfortunes to a certain extent out of his control, would that family allow him to be harassed and hunted down if it had the power to release him? By no means. Its own self-respect would alone have done it, regardless of the previous merits the person possessed. So it should have been with the Government of the United States. Morris stood in the same relation to the Government as the person in the family. It may be said it would be unwise for the Government to show such a precedent; so it would, if such persons and such circumstances as the Revolution brought forth were likely to happen once in a thousand years. We maintain that extraordinary events require more than ordinary attention and legislation, and some things happen in all governments which require no precedent to authorize action, but what simply arises out of a peculiar combination of circumstances, and which ought to be done at once. Such to us appears the case of Robert Morris; and as a confirmation of such an opinion we find, without one exception, all those who write about the Revolution sympathize with him, and would now if possible restore him from his troubles, and place him again in a free and independent position. All nations produce men that would at any time sell their birthright for a mess of pottage.

The creditors of Morris looked to him only as a business man; and they were certainly entitled to use all fair means to induce him to pay what he owed them. His creditors, in an individual capacity, could not be expected to forego their claims; because many of them had all their means invested with him; in fact, their livelihood was at stake. It was at this moment that the gratitude of the Republic of the United States should have been shown; it was then that it should not have forgotten that it was at one time under heavy obligations to this man, whom adverse circumstances had now placed in a pitiable position; and it should



have at once made one unanimous vote to furnish means to cancel all the obligations he was under. Once such deserved reciprocal act done, no further claim could reasonably have been expected from the Government.

Washington did not forget Morris. We give below, a copy of a letter written by him, and to convey the heartiest and fullest sympathy to Mrs. Morris; it is signed by Martha Washington as well as the General. It was written in the year 1799, in which Washington died, and while Morris was in prison; it is full of kind feeling and high regard.

“MOUNT VERNON, September 21st, 1799.

“OUR DEAR MADAM:—

“We never learned with certainty, until we had the pleasure of seeing Mr. White, since his return from Frederick, that you were at Winchester.

“We hope it is unnecessary to repeat in this place, how happy we should be to see you and Miss Morris under our roof for as long a stay as you shall find convenient, before your return to Philadelphia; for be assured, we ever have, and still do retain the most affectionate regard for you, Mr. Morris, and the family.

“With the highest esteem and regard, and best wishes for the health and happiness of the family you are in, we are, dear madam, your most obedient and very humble servants,

“G. WASHINGTON,

“MARTHA WASHINGTON.

“To MRS. MORRIS, in Winchester.”

As it does not come within the province of this book to go into so minute a detail of Robert Morris's life as it deserves, and as we hope one day to see, we shall now endeavor briefly to sum up his character, feeling satisfied we have at least added something to the historic lore of our country, and attempted to develop the character of a man that as yet is not thoroughly understood. Let us for one moment consider the perilous times in which our forefathers were cast during the Revolution. We can do this more effectually by contrast. England at all times has considered the law to be in *fact* what it states in WORDS; its officers were instructed on all occasions to see the laws carried out to the very letter, and



always gave them plenty of support, in shape of officers and soldiers, for that purpose. No sooner was a law violated, than the offender, if found, was punished, and very severely; sometimes strong influences were set at work to have the sentence modified, or a full pardon granted; but rarely with success; the law must be satisfied at all risks. Such a conservatism in law has been, and will continue to be, the great bulwark of Anglo-Saxonism. During the progress of the American Revolution, from 1760 to 1783, the terror of the law was felt from Canada to Georgia; no matter who was the violator, he was punished. When the first battle was fought at Lexington, the rebels knew the law, and were satisfied that, if caught, death would be their doom. It was not only the leaders, but every one that participated in it, however small, would meet the same fate,—no mercy would be shown to any one. The leaders of the Revolution were, of course, all marked men; rewards were offered for them, dead or alive; and as a great many of the citizens were loyalists, they were surrounded on every side by danger. A dangerous and practised foe was in the field, who could command men, arms, ships, and money to almost any extent. Not only did she possess all these valuable accessories, but she was as inveterate in her pursuits as she was powerful and valiant in arms; there was an éclat about her that gave her a moral force which, in itself, was an army of strength. How the Colonists succeeded against such a powerful foe, can only be explained by Divine interposition. In a war of this kind many reckless men enter who have neither character nor money to lose, but everything to gain; but the leaders of the rebel army, as they were called, consisted of the best and wealthiest men in the country. It was those men, Washington, the Adamses, Hancock, the Rutledges, the Bingham, Morris, Carroll, and others, that had the most to lose. Not only their heads, but their affluence were subject at any moment to be cut off. This patriotism was, indeed, of noble origin; it was a pure and disinterested offering to the shrine of liberty. Our forefathers' ideas of Republicanism were simple, but elevated far above our truckling and bargaining politicians of this day. Virtue and talents were recommendations for senators, and it was a high honor to be chosen as one; but, alas! audacity and cunning have taken their place.

Robert Morris was one of those men who had nothing to win in

the Revolution, but a sacred love of liberty ; while he had everything to lose,—his vast wealth and his life were ready at any moment to be offered up at liberty's shrine. If he had been a selfish man, his great wealth would have caused him to be a loyalist ; if he had been a timid man, he would not have been less so. Though Morris was not one of those brilliant meteors that flash along the intellectual horizon, and startle the world with their glare, yet he was one whose advice was always sought after, and on whose judgment much depended. His silent counsel with the secret committees, on whom rested the most important work of the Revolution, was persevering and indefatigable. He never wearied, in whatever position he was placed—he was always willing to act.

If he did not electrify like Patrick Henry with a thrilling eloquence, that caused the timid to grow stronger, yet he did what was then more valuable,—he furnished the sinews of war. If he did not command armies, he found that without which armies could not exist ; though Washington could command respect nearly at all times, yet he had to apply to Morris for funds, or otherwise his army would have been lost. It was Morris that saved the army at Trenton ; it was he on whom all hopes of success rested. He was the most valuable auxiliary to Washington. His services as Senator were devoted to practical measures, and his high-toned feeling gained him the highest respect. If he was not as successful in his later years of commercial life as he had previously been, it was more owing to others than himself. The gigantic land schemes he engaged in were far in advance of his times, and he had the sagacity and foresight to see that before many years they would be a profitable investment. The North American Land Company was at the foundation of his pecuniary embarrassments, if we may credit the statement referred to at page 710, and this trouble arose from one of his partners, Greenleaf. In a business so large as that in which Morris was engaged, he could not avoid the necessity of reposing confidence in other persons. Its various ramifications rendered it impossible for him to personally supervise it, and a great portion was in the care of his partners, who if dishonestly influenced then, could appropriate much to their own use.

This is an almost every-day occurrence ; and yet the firm that is victimized, has to bear all the odium and disgrace of the transac-

tion. In his zenith of success, he listened to the charms of a deluded man (whether intentional or not, we will not assert), who persuaded him that he could build a princely palace for \$60,000. As all men are more or less stimulated by success, Morris's ambition was excited, and he was determined to build the finest private residence in America. But alas! before this scheme was carried out, his business arrived at its zenith, and instead of being a rich man, he became poor. The troubles that harassed his mind, on this occasion, were numerous and vexatious; and he would not believe that he was poor; he did many things under such an impression, that he afterwards repented of doing; but still his moral rectitude stood the test, as it is displayed in a letter, at page 713; here is plainly shown that whatever misfortunes he fell into, right was his guiding principle. In a letter to John Nicholson, dated Hills, September 13th, 1797, he says: "Your letter of yesterday is written with more animation and spirit than the others. Oh! what a charming and delightful thing is a gleam of hope; how it cheers the soul, and drives away that fiend of hell,—Despair. I join and hope that 'the sweet little cherub that sits up aloft,' will have us in keeping, and after a sufficient degree of suffering from sins and follies, he will bring balsam and heal our wounds."

But, alas! it was not so. He was soon afterwards placed in prison, and there he stayed for four years, and then was only released by the passage of the General Bankrupt Law, in 1802. We would fain have drawn a curtain over this part of Morris's life, had we not been convinced that he was more sinned against than sinning. But Morris is one of our great historical characters. The present and future generations demand and have a right to know how he became involved, and through what means, and how it ended: this we have given, much fuller than has yet appeared. The leading traits of Robert Morris's character were, benevolence without ostentation, dignity of character without low cunning, frank and open in all his actions, ambitious but not overbearing in his relations to society.

This great and good man died, not on the 8th of May, 1806, as is stated, but on the 7th of May, 1806. Here we append Dr. Physick's certificate: "Philadelphia, 8th of May, 1806, Robert Morris, Senior, Esq., aged seventy-three years, died last night of a fever.

"P. S. PHYSICK."

The Editor is under obligations to Edward Waln, Esq., for the following copy of an original letter of General Washington to Robert Morris, never before published:—

“CAMP ABOVE THE FALLS AT TRENTON,  
December 22d, 1776.

“DEAR SIR:—

“Your favor of yesterday came directly to hand, and I thank you for the several agreeable articles of intelligence therein contained. For God’s sake hurry Mr. Mease with the clothing, as nothing will contribute more to facilitate the recruiting service than warm and comfortable clothing to those who engage. Muskets are not wanted at this place, nor should they or any other valuable stores, in my judgment, be kept in Philadelphia; for, sorry I am to inform you, my dear sir, that, unless the militia repair to the city for defence of it, I see no earthly prospect of saving of it after the last of this instant, as that fatal vote of Congress, respecting the appointment of new officers, has put the recruiting business upon such a footing, and introduced so much confusion into the old regiments, that I see no chance of raising men out of them. By the first of next month, then, we shall be left with five regiments of Virginia, one of Maryland, Colonel Hand’s, and the remains of Miles’s; reduced so much by sickness, fatigue, &c., as in the whole not to exceed but fall short of 1200 men. Upon these and the militia is all our dependence; for you may as well attempt to stop the winds from blowing, or the sun in its diurnal, as the regiments from going when their term is expired.

“I think with you, sir, that, however missed you may be in Congress, your presence in the city cannot be dispensed with. I will give you the earliest information in my power of immediate danger. In the meantime, I advise you, for the reasons above-mentioned, that you detain no papers you can possibly do without, for I am satisfied the enemy wait for two events only to begin their operations upon Philadelphia,—ice for a passage, and the dissolution of the poor remains of our debilitated army

“General Sullivan has just come up with the troops under General Lee, about 2000 men. General Gates is here, and a small division under him of about 600 expected to-day; this, with about



four or five and twenty hundred at most, here before, compose the strength of my army (the city militia excepted), but this under the rose.

“Alas, poor Lee! taken by his own imprudence! We have no distinct accounts of him; if any should arrive, Mr. Tilghman or I will communicate them to you. Insults accompanied the taking of him. Since that, I have heard that he was treated well by Lord Cornwallis, to whom he was first carried.

“The Commissary (Mr. Wharton) informs me that he cannot prevail on the millers to grind; and that the troops, in consequence, are like to suffer for want of flour. This, if I understand him, proceeds from disaffection, or an unwillingness to take Continental money in pay, which, in fact, is the same thing. This must be remedied by fair or other means.

“With sincere regard and esteem,

“I am, dear sir, your most obedient,

“G<sup>o</sup>. WASHINGTON.

“To the Honorable ROBERT MORRIS.”

True copy from original, made by E. Waln, September 9, 1859.

## ANTHONY MORRIS.

ANTHONY MORRIS, the son of Anthony Morris, was a man of character and ability. He stood high in the religious Society of Quakers, as well as in the political and business world. He was at one time a member of Assembly; and, in the year 1739, was Mayor of the city.

On a subsequent occasion, when he was elected Mayor, his successful manœuvres to avoid the office, as they are detailed in the Minutes of Councils, afford amusing evidence of the primitive simplicity of the times in which he lived.

He died, highly respected, in the year 1762.



## ANTHONY MORRIS,

GRANDSON OF ANTHONY MORRIS.

THE Morris family, though belonging to the Society of Friends, were ardent supporters of the Revolution.

Captain Samuel Morris, of whom mention is hereafter made, was Captain of the First City Troop, and in that capacity was at the battle of Trenton. His brother Anthony, the subject of this notice, served as Ensign of the company, and was killed at the battle of Princeton.

His kinsman, John Morris, Jr., who was on public business at Bristol, in Bucks County, in a postscript to a letter addressed to Thomas Wharton, Esq., President of the Council of Safety, under date January 5th, 1776–7, says: "Please to inform my father that my brother, S. C. Morris, received no hurt in the battle, but that Anthony Morris received a wound with a bayonet in the neck and a bullet in the leg."\*

His body was brought to Philadelphia, and was buried, on the 24th January, 1777, in Friends' Burial-Ground. No military ceremonies were observed at his funeral, his friends having obtained the consent of the General to his being so interred.

## CAPTAIN SAMUEL MORRIS.

CAPTAIN MORRIS was born in Philadelphia, on the 24th of June, 1734, of Quaker parentage, and was the son of Anthony and Sarah Morris, formerly Sarah Powell, and grandson of Anthony and Phœbe Morris, formerly Phœbe Guest; and was always a useful and public-spirited citizen, serving repeatedly in the legislative department of the Province and city.

\* Pennsylvania Archives, vol. v, p. 162.

The early settlers of Pennsylvania brought with them the British relish for field-sports, and other out-door recreations, for the gratification of which, the sparkling streams and virgin forests of their new home offered irresistible temptations. Accordingly, fishing and hunting clubs were soon formed. "The Schuylkill Fishing Company of the State in Schuylkill," was among the earliest, if not the earliest of these organizations. It was founded in the year 1732, by a few choice spirits, who, under the mock forms of a State, with Governor and other officers, met at stated periods of the year, at the "Castle of the State in Schuylkill," on the banks of that river, at the spot now known as Egglesfield, to fish, and dine together on the product of their sport.

Mr. Morris was elected Governor of "the State in Schuylkill," in October, 1776, and was annually re-elected until his death. The association was productive of much social good feeling. It numbered among its members, during the first hundred years of its existence, many of the prominent citizens of Philadelphia. Having celebrated its centennial anniversary on the first day of May, 1832, it still thrives in a hearty old age. An interesting memoir of the Fishing Company, from the pen of William Milnor, Esq., was published in the year 1830. It contains the following: "On the 7th of July, 1812, the good old Governor, Samuel Morris, usually distinguished by the appellation of 'Christian Samuel,' departed this life; having been a member for fifty-eight years, and for forty-six years the Chief Magistrate of the Colony and State; to which honorable post he was annually re-elected with perfect unanimity; respected and beloved by his endeared associates for the cheerfulness of his disposition, the benevolence of his heart, and the blandness and dignity of his manner. He was ever remarkable for studied courtesy and kindness to all invited guests. Every stated meeting of the Company attests the estimation in which this good citizen was and continues to be held, and his memory revered. After 'The memory of Washington,' which is always drank standing, 'The memory of our late worthy Governor Morris,' always succeeds."

Captain Morris was also for many years an active member of the "Gloucester Fox-Hunting Club," of which he was President from some unascertained period prior to the Revolution until his death.

This club was organized about the year 1766, and comprised many of the leading men of Philadelphia, as well as of Gloucester County, New Jersey. Our ancestors were accustomed to rise with the dawn, and repair to the rendezvous on the banks of the Delaware, near Gloucester Point, where sixteen couple of good foxhounds were in readiness to meet them. Once a week, from the 10th of October to the 10th of April, did these hardy gentlemen meet for their exciting sport, and often crossing the Delaware on the ice, they would urge the chase from five to six or even eight hours.

It is recorded of Captain Morris, that he was a constant and fearless hunter. These hardy pastimes nurtured revolutionary heroes. Accordingly, when the war broke out, "The First Troop of Philadelphia City Cavalry" (still one of the boasts of the city), numbered in its ranks not less than twenty-two of the "Gloucester Fox-Hunting Club." Samuel Morris, the President of the Club, was the Captain of the Troop, and in that capacity served through the campaign of 1776-77, and took an active part in the battles of Trenton and Princeton, where his brother Anthony, who was Ensign of the Troop, was killed.

The best evidence of the services of the Troop and their commander, is found in the terms of their discharge, by General Washington, in these words:—

"The Philadelphia Troop of Light-Horse, under the command of Captain Morris, having performed their tour of duty, are discharged for the present.

"I take this opportunity of returning my most sincere thanks to the Captain, and to the gentlemen who composed the Troop, for the many essential services which they have rendered to their country, and to me personally, during the course of this severe campaign.

"Though composed of gentlemen of fortune, they have shown a noble example of discipline and subordination, and in several actions have shown a spirit and bravery which will ever do honor to them, and will ever be gratefully remembered by me."

"GEORGE WASHINGTON.

"HEADQUARTERS, MORRISTOWN, January 23d, 1777."

Captain Morris was disowned by the Society of Friends for his part in the Revolution. He continued, however, until his death the dress and language of Friends, and worshipped regularly at their meeting. On the 7th of July, 1812, in the seventy-eighth year of his age, he closed a long and useful life at his residence in Second Street below Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

The notices of his death in the newspapers of the day bear testimony to the high regard in which he was held by his fellow-citizens. His body was followed to the grave by the First Troop in citizens' dress, and by a long procession of friends and relatives.

His descendants in and about Philadelphia are numerous.

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### SAMUEL GEORGE MORTON, M.D.

DR. MORTON was born in Philadelphia in 1799. His father died when he was quite young, and he was placed at a Quaker school by his mother, a member of that Society. From this he was removed to a counting-house, but manifesting a distaste for business, was allowed to follow the bent of his inclination, and study for a profession. That of medicine was the one selected, Quaker tenets tolerating neither priest or lawyer. After passing through the usual course of preliminary study under the able guidance of the celebrated Dr. Joseph Parrish, he received a diploma, and soon after sailed for Europe on a visit to his uncle. He passed two winters in attendance on the medical lectures of the Edinburgh school, and one in a similar manner at Paris, travelling on the Continent during the summer. He returned in 1824, and commenced practice. He had before his departure been made a member of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, and now took an active part in its proceedings. Geology was his favorite pursuit. In 1827, he published an "Analysis of Tabular Spar from Bucks County;" in 1834, "A Synopsis of the Organic Remains of the Cretaceous Group of the United States;" in the same year, a medical work; "Illustrations of Pulmonary Consumption, its Anatomical Characters, Causes, Symptoms, and Treatment, with twelve

colored plates;" and in 1849, "An Illustrated System of Human Anatomy, Special, General, and Microscopic." During this period he was actively engaged in the duties of his profession, having, in addition to a large private practice, filled the Professorship of Anatomy in the Pennsylvania College from 1839 to 1843, and served for several years as one of the physicians and clinical teachers of the Almshouse Hospital.

He commenced, in 1830, his celebrated collection of skulls, one of the most important labors of his life. He thus relates its origin:—

"Having had occasion, in the summer of 1830, to deliver an introductory lecture to a course of anatomy, I chose for my subject, 'The different Forms of the Skull as Exhibited in the Five Races of Men.' Strange to say, I could neither buy nor borrow a cranium of each of these races, and I finished my discourse without showing either the Mongolian or the Malay. Forcibly impressed with this great deficiency in a most important branch of science, I at once resolved to make a collection for myself."

His friends warmly seconded his endeavors, and the collection, increased by the exertions of over one hundred contributors in all parts of the world, soon became large and valuable. At the time of his death it numbered nine hundred and eighteen human specimens. It has been purchased by subscription for, and is now deposited in the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, and is by far the finest collection of its kind in existence.

The first use made of the collection by Dr. Morton was the preparation of the "*Crania Americana*," published in 1839, with finely executed lithographic illustrations. It was during the progress of this work that he became acquainted with George R. Gliddon, of Cairo, in consequence of an application to him for Egyptian skulls. It was followed, after the arrival of Mr. Gliddon, in 1842, by an intimate acquaintance, and the publication, in 1844, of a large and valuable work, the "*Crania Ægyptiaca*."

Dr. Morton finally adopted the theory of a diverse origin of the human race, and maintained a controversy on the subject with the Rev. Dr. John Bachman, of Charleston.

Dr. Morton died at Philadelphia, after an illness of five days, on the 15th of May, 1851.



## PETER MUHLENBERG.

PETER MUHLENBERG, Major-General in the army of the Revolution, and a firm patriot, was born about 1745. In obedience to the wishes of his father, he studied divinity and officiated as an Episcopal clergyman in Virginia until 1776, when he was elected a member of the Convention. He soon entered the military service in command of a regiment. In conducting a storming party at Yorktown, he and all his men were wounded. In February, 1777, he was appointed Brigadier-General, and Major-General at the close of the war. In 1801, he was appointed a Senator of the United States from Pennsylvania, and in 1802, Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, in which office he continued till his death, October 1st, 1807, aged sixty-two years.

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## LINDLEY MURRAY.

LINDLEY MURRAY, author of an English Grammar, as well as of other popular and useful elementary school-books, was a native of Pennsylvania, born of Quaker parents, in 1745. He received his primary education in Philadelphia, at the Academy belonging to the Society of Friends; and after the removal of his father to New York, in 1753, he attended school for a time, and was then placed in a counting-house, with a view to his being a merchant. But he left the latter situation, and went to Burlington, N. J., again to pursue his studies, having a strong passion for literature. On his return to New York, in addition to continuing his classical studies, he entered a lawyer's office, where he was a fellow-student of the celebrated John Jay. At the age of twenty-one, or soon after, he began practice at the Bar, and soon became a successful lawyer. At the commencement of the Revolutionary war, his health being poor, he retired to the country, where he spent four years, when

his pecuniary necessities induced him to return to the city; but his profession having ceased to be lucrative, he engaged in mercantile pursuits. His business was so productive, after the establishment of American Independence, that the acquisition of an ample fortune soon enabled him to retire from it. Impaired health, however, induced him to go to England with his family, for the purpose of procuring medical assistance, with the intention of remaining but two years; but his physical infirmities continuing, he formed local attachments to that country which led him to become a permanent resident there, devoting himself to meditative indulgence and literary pursuits. In 1787, his first book, "The Power of Religion on the Mind," was published anonymously, and became so popular as to pass through seventeen editions. His "Grammar of the English Language," first issued in 1795, was enlarged and improved in subsequent editions, and acquired an unrivalled popularity. Two years subsequently, he published "English Exercises," and a "Key," designed to accompany the English Grammar; and this was followed by an "English Reader;" "An Introduction to the English Reader;" and "An English Spelling-Book." He also published "Lecteur Français," and an "Introduction au Lecteur Français," similar in character to his English Reading Books. His last publication was a selection from "Horne's Commentary on the Psalms," and "The Duty and Benefits of Reading the Scriptures." His works were widely circulated both in Great Britain and the United States, and were very lucrative. He died, February 16th, 1826, in his eighty-first year.

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## ALEXANDER MURRAY.

COMMODORE MURRAY was born in Chestertown, Maryland, in 1755. His father was a physician; his grandfather, banished from Scotland for adhering to the cause of the Pretender in 1715, settled in Barbadoes. As a lieutenant and captain in the army, he fought in the battles of White Plains, Flatbush, and New York, and served till the close of 1777. He afterwards took the command of

a letter of marque. Twice was he taken prisoner; the second time in the frigate *Trumbull*; he afterwards served in the *Alliance*, under Barry, until the close of the war. He then successively commanded the *Insurgent* and the *Constellation*, and went with a squadron to the Mediterranean, to protect our trade against the Barbary States. He made his home in Philadelphia, where he at last commanded the navy-yard, and died near Germantown, October 6th, 1821, aged sixty-six years. To great firmness and resolution he united a mild and serene temper.

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## THOMAS D. MÜTTER, M.D.

(From the Sunday Dispatch.)

THOMAS DENT MÜTTER was born in Richmond, Virginia, March 9th, 1811, and died March 16th, 1859. Thomas had the misfortune, at the early age of seven years, to lose his father, who died while on a temporary visit to Europe. His residence in Richmond was then changed to a country seat, called "Sabine Hall," belonging to his relatives, in the interior of Virginia. From this he was removed to Hampden Sydney College, where he graduated at an early age. After this he was placed under the professional tuition of Dr. Sims, of Alexandria.

He afterwards removed to Philadelphia, where he attended the medical lectures in the University of Pennsylvania, and graduated at the early age of twenty years. His preceptors here were Physick, Chapman, Dewees, Jackson, Coxe, Hare, &c.

Enjoying the friendship and patronage of Professors Gibson and Jackson, who were in the habit of sending him to see their patients, Dr. Mütter very soon, by his gracious manners, superior skill, and devoted attention to his patients, secured the confidence of a large number of respectable families, who were ever after his patrons.

Dr. Mütter married Miss Mary Alsop, of Middletown, Connecticut, a beautiful and highly accomplished lady.

In the reorganization of the Jefferson College, after the departure of Drs. Pattison and Revere, Dr. Mütter was first made adjunct or Professor of "Operative Surgery;" while Dr. Randolph, then in Europe, was elected Professor of the "Principles of Surgery." Dr. Randolph declining the appointment, Dr. Mütter became the Professor of the "Principles and Practice of Surgery," while Dr. Pancoast took the chair of Anatomy.

For sixteen years these two names have been associated in the triumphs of one of the most successful clinics in the United States. Dr. Mütter established a reputation for dexterity, skill, and ingenuity, in the practice of surgery, at that time unrivalled in our city. Club feet, crooked limbs, artificial noses, tumors, squinting, and many other affections, were treated in this celebrated clinic.

Dr. Mütter's fine collection of osseous and other preparations he has donated to the College of Physicians in this city, to serve as a basis of a museum, to be denominated "The Mütter Museum, founded by Thomas Dent Mütter, M.D., A.D. 1858." Property, to the amount of \$30,000, is deposited in trust for the maintenance of the Museum, the endowment of a lectureship on Surgical Pathology, and the payment of a Curator.

Thus has Dr. Mütter identified his name for all time with the medical institutions of the city of his adoption. Essays on Club Foot, Tenotomy, &c., with introductory lectures; a Syllabus to his Course on Surgery; editing "Liston's Surgery,"—are among his chief literary productions. His composition, like his lecturing, is florid and hopeful.

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## JOHN McALLISTER.

JOHN McALLISTER was born in February, 1753, at Glasgow, in Scotland. His ancestors, for several generations, had been residents of Bonhill and its neighborhood, in the Vale of Leven. His father, a few years before his birth, had removed to Glasgow. He served his apprenticeship in Glasgow, part of the time with a turner and spinning-wheel maker, and the rest of the time with a house carpenter and joiner.

In April, 1775, he sailed from Greenock for America, and, after a passage of nearly nine weeks, arrived early in July off the Narrows. Here they were informed of the affair at Lexington, and of the battle at Bunker's Hill. The captain then set the passengers ashore, and sailed to Halifax.

Shortly after the arrival of John McAllister at New York, he procured employment as journeyman with Ahasuerus Turk, a turner in wood and metals, at the corner of John and Nassau Streets. He remained with Mr. Turk until September, 1781, when he obtained a passport for Philadelphia. As soon as he reached Philadelphia he entered into the employment of Kates, a turner, in Second Street, near Dock, who was at that time making cartridge boxes, &c., to be sent to the American Army under General Washington, who was then advancing upon Lord Cornwallis. After the capture of Cornwallis, there was no longer employment for him in Kates's shop, and he then began turning on his own account. He rented the cellar of the house in Market Street below Letitia Court, which was owned and occupied by Robert Aitken, printer and bookseller, who was then engaged in printing the edition of the Bible so well known as Aitken's Bible, and which was recommended by a resolution of Congress. The principal business of John McAllister, in this cellar, was making hickory walking-sticks. These he turned so well, and polished and varnished so neatly, that almost every citizen possessed himself of one of them.

In 1783 he removed to the cellar under Mr. Jedediah Snowden's house, above Letitia Court; and, while here, he issued his first advertisement; it appeared in Dunlap & Claypoole's paper, "The Pennsylvania Packet," and was headed the "Cane Shop." In addition to the turning of canes and other articles, he sold shoe buckles, knives, &c. About 1784 he emerged from the cellar, and rented a small room on the Market Street front of the old Coffee-House; a building still standing at the southwest corner of Market and Front Streets. From the old Coffee-House he removed to the house at the northeast corner of Market and Second Streets. About this time he began to turn his attention to making riding whips. He knew nothing whatever of the business; but, being ingenious and very industrious, he succeeded in producing an article which gave satisfaction, and which became much in demand. He contrived a





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and  $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$ .

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CONCLUSIONS

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$$-\frac{1}{\alpha} \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right) = f(x, y)$$

machine for platting the whips with gut, and he made silver bands or ferrules for ornamenting them. In the course of a few years, McAllister's silver-mounted whips became generally known over the country, and the business became quite extensive. He had his establishment afterwards in Market Street, above Third Street, and then at No. 16 South Third Street. While at this last place he purchased the property No. 48 Chestnut Street, on which he built a new house, with a workshop in the rear. Here he established himself in April, 1796; and here the business was continued by himself, his son, and his grandsons, until July, 1856, being a little more than sixty years.

In the year 1799 he entered into the optical business, particularly at first with reference to spectacles. He persevered in this until it became a business of considerable extent; and the establishment has now become very generally known in many parts of the United States. The whip, cane, and optical business were all carried on together, and, as much as possible, the various articles were manufactured at his own establishment. He died May 12, 1830. The descendants, who survived him, were a son, and the children of a daughter, who had died some years before.

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## GEORGE McCLELLAN.

GEORGE McCLELLAN was born at Woodstock, Windham County, State of Connecticut, on the 22d day of December, 1796.

The race of McClellan was Gaelic mixed with the Anglo-Saxon stock. From his paternal Gaelic stock, he inherited his restless, generous, intrepid spirit; and from his maternal Anglo-Saxon stock, he obtained his strong, sagacious mind.

McClellan was gifted with sterling qualities of body, mind, and heart; was educated by a succession of master spirits,—his father, the distinguished Principal of the Woodstock Academy, and subsequently Dwight, Silliman, Hubbard, Dorsey, Physick, Wistar, and Chapman!

His primary studies were pursued at the academy of his native

township, under the patronage of his father. At this excellent institution, George made unusual progress, manifesting the same energy and rapidity which characterized him in after life.

In 1815, at the early age of eighteen years, he obtained his Baccalaureate at Yale, with a high reputation for his knowledge, especially of the natural sciences.

Immediately on graduating, McClellan applied himself to the study of medicine, and entered the office of the late Dr. Thomas Hubbard, of Pomfret, one of the most distinguished surgeons of Connecticut, and subsequently, the Professor of Surgery in the Medical College of New Haven. He remained a year with him. In 1817, he came to Philadelphia to attend the medical lectures, confined at that time to the University of Pennsylvania; and to become the private pupil of the late lamented Dr. John Syng Dorsey, the nephew and associate of the celebrated Dr. Physick. Dorsey was the Professor of *Materia Medica*, and, at the time of his unexpected death, of *Anatomy* in the place of the distinguished and beloved Dr. Wistar.

In the spring of 1819, he received his Doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania. The subject of his thesis was "The Tying of Arteries;" a manly and practical production, subsequently published as a source of professional information.

In 1821, he married into one of the most influential families of Philadelphia, and became established as a practitioner, before whom was an open path of usefulness and honor.

As a writer, he has been the contributor of original medico-surgical reports; one of the conductors of "The American Medical Review and Journal;" and the commentator on "Eberle's Theory and Practice of Physic."

McClellan had his peculiarities. His *sans ceremonie* and *en avant* spirit seemed like obtrusiveness, insubordination, and disrespect—and the infliction of rebuke has been doubtless sufficiently given. Some of his best friends indeed would say that he was impolitic and unwise, and, at times, even inconsiderate and imprudent. His bold and novel acts in surgery, to him not extraordinary matters, he would most freely communicate to all and every one in season and out of season, and in such a peculiar rapid incoherent manner, that often it displeased the lover of established usage and



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1. The first part of the paper discusses the importance of the study.  
2. The second part of the paper discusses the methodology used.  
3. The third part of the paper discusses the results of the study.  
4. The fourth part of the paper discusses the conclusions of the study.  
5. The fifth part of the paper discusses the implications of the study.  
6. The sixth part of the paper discusses the limitations of the study.  
7. The seventh part of the paper discusses the future research.  
8. The eighth part of the paper discusses the acknowledgments.  
9. The ninth part of the paper discusses the references.  
10. The tenth part of the paper discusses the appendix.

propriety. He sometimes thereby indeed also disturbed the ordinary course; and ruffled occasionally even those who seemed, at a very early period, to prophetically perceive that McClellan was not commissioned for an ordinary life. But we all did it ignorantly. Now, looking at the full cartoon of his character, we discern that his peculiarities were the guilelessness, unceremoniousness, and unsuspiciousness of a child of genius perpetually burning with a surgical zeal. The peculiarities of one who oftentimes felt his spirit stirred against opprobrious disease stalking with defiance in the terrified presence of the medical profession, and who, without professional support, dared to meet and subdue it. That daring he has imparted to others. Like Bowditch, he infused his spirit into his pupils. There are now hundreds of them scattered over the country who manifest it in their bold and efficient surgery, and who will welcome the publication of those principles which they once heard from his eloquent lips, and on which their success in practice has so much depended.

His faults! they were those of humanity and genius, and those educes by external relations! There is a repentance which cometh down from above! "If man," said McClellan, "had nothing better to depend on, before his Judge, than his own righteousness, it would be a poor dependence!" Is this the language of the penitent—then his sins are washed away—away forever! He is before us without his faults,—the gifted man of our profession,—his ten talents all improved.

He died in May, 1847.

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## SAMUEL McCLELLAN.

SAMUEL McCLELLAN was born, September 21st, 1800, at Woodstock, Connecticut. He was of Scotch descent. He graduated at the Medical Department of Yale College, in New Haven. On leaving college, he came to this city, and entered the office of his brother, George McClellan, the eminent surgeon. He next removed to Bristol, Pennsylvania, where he practised a few years, but finally settled in Philadelphia.

About this time he assisted his brother in surgical operations,

particularly in ophthalmic surgery. He was identified with him in the foundation and establishment of the Jefferson Medical College in this city. He was appointed Demonstrator, and then Professor of Anatomy, and afterwards Professor of Obstetrics in this College. Subsequently, he was elected Professor of Obstetrics in the Pennsylvania Medical College; but, wearied at length with Professorship, he resigned, and devoted himself exclusively to private practice, for which he was admirably fitted by a sound judgment, native cheerfulness of manner, great experience, graceful urbanity, and high Christian character.

He died, Wednesday, the 4th day of January, 1853.

### BLAIR McCLENACHAN.

BLAIR McCLENACHAN was a native of Ireland. He was in business in Philadelphia before the Revolution; but on the breaking out of the war engaged in privateering, in which he was very successful, accumulating much wealth, and living in good style. He was most ardent and devoted to the cause of liberty, and one of the founders of the First Troop of Philadelphia City Cavalry, in which he served during the war. He co-operated most liberally in all the patriotic exertions and schemes of Robert Morris and his compatriots, in urging on, sustaining, and establishing the cause of American freedom. He subscribed £10,000, in 1780, to supply the starving army, and on various occasions aided Congress by his money and his credit, and suffered much thereby in a pecuniary way, though repaid by the approbation of the whole country, and the triumph of the cause. After the war, he engaged largely in various mercantile operations, and was an extensive ship-owner. His speculations resulted in his embarrassment, and like his friend Robert Morris, in his incarceration. Mr. McClenachan had a large family. One of his daughters married General Walter Stewart. Some of his descendants are still living in Philadelphia. Mr. McClenachan had much of the quickness, promptitude, and warmth of temperament which characterize Irishmen; and his generosity,

patriotism, and self-sacrifices in the cause of his adopted country, ought not to be forgotten by Americans. After the war, he had for his partner in business, Patrick Moore. In local politics, Mr. McClenachan belonged to the party who so much disapproved the provisions of "Jay's Treaty," and so warmly opposed its ratification. When asked what he would do with it, he indignantly replied, "Kick it to —, sir;" whereupon the opposite party immediately issued a laughable caricature, well remembered by many citizens of the present day, representing Mr. McClenachan in the act of kicking the treaty to the dominions of his Satanic majesty.

He died in Philadelphia at an advanced age.

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## THOMAS McKEAN.

THOMAS McKEAN, Governor of Pennsylvania, a patriot of the Revolution, the son of William McKean, an Irishman, who settled in New London, Pennsylvania, was born March 19th, 1734. He was educated in the excellent school of Dr. Allison, at New London. Having studied law in New Castle, he settled in that county. He was a member of the legislature in 1762, of the Congress of 1765, and of that of 1774; having his residence at this period in Philadelphia. He remained in Congress, as a delegate from Delaware, from 1774 to 1783; yet was he, at the same time, Chief Justice of Pennsylvania from 1777, being claimed by both States. He was present in Congress, July 4th, 1776, and voted for the Declaration of Independence, and signed it as engrossed, August 2d; yet in the printed journal his name was omitted. The subsequent signers, who were not present July 4th, were Mr. Thornton, B. Rush, G. Clymer, J. Smith, G. Taylor, and G. Ross. As a member of the Convention of Pennsylvania, he urged the adoption of the Constitution. In 1799, he succeeded Mr. Mifflin, as Governor, and remained in office till 1808, when he was succeeded by Mr. Snyder. In his politics, he accorded with Mr. Jefferson. After the close of 1808, he passed his days in retirement. He

died June 24th, 1817, aged 83 years. As Chief Justice for twenty-two years, he was eminent. His decisions were accurate and profound. He once had occasion to say, "No act of my public life was ever done from a corrupt motive, nor without a deliberate opinion that the act was proper and lawful in itself."

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### BERNARD McMAHON.

BERNARD McMAHON, a gardener and florist, founded in 1809, a botanic garden near Philadelphia; and died in September, 1816. He published "The American Gardener's Calendar," in 1806. He was one of the first successful gardeners of the United States, a man of science and education, and devoted to his profession.

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### JOSEPH G. NANCREDE, M.D.

DR. NANCREDE was born in Boston, in June, 1793, and while a child was sent to Montreal to be educated; but his stay there was of short duration. Napoleon attaining to supreme power, and anarchy and the guillotine giving way to peace and order, Dr. Nancrede's father determined to reside in his native country, whither he took his family. Joseph completed his education at the College of St. Barbe, at Paris, and at once entered upon the study of medicine in the same city. Again Fate drives him across the Atlantic. Napoleon determined to invade Russia, and issued a decree, declaring that the sons of Frenchmen, wherever born, were Frenchmen, and as such, obliged to serve in the army. Mr. Nancrede fearing that his sons would be unable to escape the general conscription, again set sail for this country. Scarcely had the ship which bore them left the harbor, when she was captured by an English cruiser, and all on board carried prisoners to Great Britain; however, as they were all peaceful citizens, another ship was



obtained, and they were suffered to depart, and reached Philadelphia in safety. Joseph immediately recommenced the study of medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, where he graduated, in the year 1813. At first, he went to Louisville, and opened an office; but he returned to our city in 1816, and began the practice of his profession, and devoted himself to it with the most unremitting zeal, and the most untiring energy, till a few months before his death. Nor could he have chosen a more opportune time. America was thronged with exiles from France; Waterloo had cast thousands of Bonapartists on our shores; and these were only too glad to find a physician who could minister to their wants, not only speaking their own language, but having feelings in unison with their own. Many French families employed Dr. Nancrede, particularly after the death of his friend and patron, Dr. Monges; and some of them he attended in the last month of his practice. Joseph Bonaparte himself, was frequently his patient; and he gave many little mementoes to the subject of this notice, which are now in the possession of Dr. Samuel G. Nancrede. Dr. Joseph Nancrede and the late lamented Dr. Chapman, were often the guests of the ex-King, and seem to have spent most agreeable evenings in his society, dwelling on the actions and sentiments of the great Napoleon.

Dr. Nancrede was particularly opposed to specialities, though he obtained a very large share of obstetrical practice, and in this department was much noted, as well as very successful. He it was that first proposed and performed the operation for Cæsarian section, which was so happy in its results that both the mother and child survived. An account of this case is published by Dr. Nancrede himself in the 16th volume of "The American Journal of the Medical Sciences." The Doctor's attention was too much occupied with his profession to spend much time in "book-making," and it is a great pity, for he wrote in a very clear, forcible style, and very agreeably, and his experience was so great, that his writings would have been very valuable as well as interesting; still he and his brother, Dr. Nicholas Nancrede, translated "Legallois' Experiments on the Principles of Life;" this was at a very early period of his professional life; he also translated and edited an abridgment of Orfila's work on Toxicology, for which he received a com-

plimentary letter from Orfila himself. He wrote an article on Mania-a-Potu, one on "Broussais' Theory of Fevers," and a number of others, in the various medical journals of the day. Dr. Nancrede was mild and gentle in his manners, and particularly pleasant in the sick-room, combining the friend with the physician in an eminent degree. In early life, he was sent to a Catholic College, and to the tenets of this form of religion he was always devotedly attached, and it was only when its beloved doctrines were attacked, that I have ever seen him really put out; its commandments of love and charity towards our fellow-men he was ever ready to obey, and no one sought his assistance whose heart was not gladdened by his kindness and beneficence. In 1822 he married Cornelia, daughter of Commodore Truxton, and from that day till that of the death of Mrs. Nancrede, this devoted couple seemed absolutely to live for each other, and from the blow inflicted by her death, in 1848, the Doctor never rallied. Eight years, sad and weary years, rolled their length along, and still he mourned; the world had lost its brightness, and society its charms, for this stricken heart. His voice was as gentle, his manner was as mild, but his soul pined for the companion of his youth, the comforter of his manhood; he was too religious to give up entirely, and he strove to conquer his sadness, but his duties, although he performed them, ceased to give him pleasure, and his only desire seemed to be to prepare to meet the departed one in a better world.

This constant grief finally produced its effects upon a constitution by no means strong, and the seeds of disease as well as grief matured, and put an end to the existence of this skilful physician, and truly good man.

In May, 1856, he had a hemorrhage from the lungs, and this closed his medical career; for a time he seemed to rally from this, and was enabled to ride out till a few weeks before his death; but great difficulty of breathing set in, which increased to such a degree that at last he was unable to walk at all, and even to sit up with great difficulty. This was the great peculiarity of his case; he had no cough, no hectic, no expectoration, no night-sweats, yet he sank, in spite of every attempt to alleviate his condition, and the most skilful advice; leaving a bright example of what may be

accomplished by perseverance and energy, accompanied by skill, honesty, and charity. *Requiescat in pace.*

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## JOSEPH C. NEAL.

MR. NEAL was an original humorist, and was a native of New Hampshire, where he was born, at Greenland, February 3d, 1807. His father had been a principal of a school in Philadelphia, and had retired in ill health to the country, where he discharged the duties of a Congregational clergyman. He died while his son was in infancy, and the family returned to Philadelphia. Mr. Neal was early attracted to editorial life, and was for a number of years, from 1831, engaged in conducting "The Pennsylvanian" newspaper. The labor proved too severe for a delicate constitution, and he was compelled to travel abroad to regain lost health; and, finally, in 1844, to relinquish his daily journal, when he established a popular weekly newspaper, "Neal's Saturday Gazette." This he continued with success to the time of his death, in the year 1847.

The *forte* of Mr. Neal was a certain genial humor, devoted to the exhibition of a peculiar class of citizens, falling under the social history description of the genus "loafer." Every metropolis breeds a race of such people, the laggards in the rear of civilization, who lack energy or ability to make an honorable position in the world, and who fall quietly into decay, complaining of their hard fate in the world, and eking out their deficient courage by a resort to the bar-room. The whole race of small spendthrifts, inferior pretenders to fashion, bores, half-developed inebriates, and generally gentlemen enjoying the minor miseries and social difficulties of life, met with a rare delineator in Mr. Neal, who interpreted their ailments, repeated their slang, and showed them an image which they might enjoy, without too great a wound to their self-love. A quaint vein of speculation wrapped up this humorous dialogue.

The "Sketches" made a great hit a few years since when they appeared; and, for their preservation of curious specimens of cha-

racter, as well as for their other merits, will be looked after by posterity.

There were several series of these papers contributed by Mr. Neal to "The Pennsylvanian," the author's "Weekly Gazette," "The Democratic Review," and other journals, which were collected in one volume, illustrated by David C. Johnston, entitled, "Charcoal Sketches; or, Scenes in a Metropolis." The alliterative and extravagant titles of the "Sketches" take off something from the reality, which is a relief to the picture, since it would be painful to be called to laugh at real misery, while we may be amused with comic exaggeration.

In 1846 he was married to Miss Bradley, of Hudson, State of New York, and died, a few months after his marriage, in Philadelphia.

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## JOHN MAXWELL NESBITT.

THIS eminent merchant and devoted patriot was a native of the North of Ireland, and emigrated to America before the Revolution. In 1777, he joined the First Troop of Philadelphia Cavalry. He conducted one of the most extensive mercantile houses in Philadelphia, under the firm of J. M. Nesbitt & Co., during the war, and afterwards under the name of Conyngham & Nesbitt. He embarked his all in the cause of liberty; and with a devoted patriotism, not exceeded in history, fearlessly staked his life, his fortune, and, what he valued more than both, his sacred honor, on the success of America. His benefactions to her cause had in them a simple greatness which should make his memory dear to America in every future age, as he was, whilst living, beloved and trusted by all his compatriots. J. M. Nesbitt & Co. subscribed £5000 for the supply of the Army of the United States with provisions. So great was the distress of the American army, in 1780, that General Washington was apprehensive that they would not be able to keep the field. The army, however, was saved by a combination of providential circumstances. General Washington having written to Richard Peters, Esq., giving him full information of the state of the army,



that gentleman immediately called on J. M. Nesbitt, Esq., and explained to him the distress of the army and the wishes of the General. Mr. Nesbitt replied, "that a Mr. Howe, of Trenton, had offered to put up pork for him if he could be paid in hard money. He contracted with Howe to put up all the pork and beef he could possibly obtain, for which he should be paid in gold." Mr. Howe performed his engagement, and J. M. Nesbitt & Co. paid him accordingly. Mr. Nesbitt told Mr. Peters that he might have this beef and pork; and, in addition, a valuable prize, just arrived to Bunner, Murray & Co., laden with provisions.

"I need not tell you," continues the same writer, "how pleased Mr. Peters was with the result of the application. The provisions were sent in time, and the army was saved.

"Mr. Nesbitt was a faithful coadjutor of Robert Morris during the war in the supply of money and necessaries for the army, and in the support of public credit when Mr. Morris acted as financier."

He was one of the founders of the Hibernian Society.

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## JOHN NICHOLSON.

MR. NICHOLSON was Controller of the State of Pennsylvania from 1782 to 1794; during which period more than \$27,000,000 of public money passed through his hands, under circumstances of peculiar complication and difficulty, arising from the state of paper money and Government credit. He became the object of political persecution, and resigned his office. His private transactions were very extensive. At this period he was owner of about 3,700,000 acres of land in Pennsylvania, besides large possessions, real and personal, elsewhere. To meet his various pecuniary engagements for these lands, he formed joint-stock companies, to which he conveyed a large portion of them. His affairs became embarrassed; he was committed to prison, and died in confinement and insane during the year 1800. So early as the 17th and 18th of March, 1797, deeds had been made to the Pennsylvania Land Company, and individual creditors had obtained judgments against him.



The Commonwealth had an immense claim against him for unsettled land-warrants, stock-accounts, and other items, in liquidation of which the vast amount of lands held in his name, throughout thirty-nine counties, reverted to the Commonwealth, and have since been taken up or purchased by others. Conflicting claims, besides that of the State, were previously existing, and have tended greatly to complicate the title to these lands. The matter has several times been closed, and as often reopened, by legislative enactments, special courts, and new lawsuits; and, recently, a sweeping claim has been laid by the individual heirs of Mr. Nicholson to an immense amount of lands throughout the whole State, attempting to unsettle titles supposed to be quieted many years since forever.

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### PHILIP H. NICKLIN.

PHILIP H. NICKLIN, an eminent bookseller and scholar, born in Philadelphia in 1786, received a collegiate education at Nassau Hall, whence he graduated, in 1804, in the class with Theodore Frelinghuysen, LL.D., Alfred Ely, D.D., Joseph R. Ingersoll, LL.D., Philip Lindsly, D.D., Nathaniel S. Prime, D.D., and Samuel L. Southard, LL.D., one of the most distinguished classes ever sent forth from that institution. Mr. Nicklin first studied law, but after the death of his father, in 1807, on account of pecuniary considerations, he resolved to embark in mercantile pursuits. Accordingly, in 1809, he became a bookseller, first in Baltimore, and then, in 1814, at Philadelphia. Subsequently, in the year 1827, his business was exclusively confined to law books. In 1839, having acquired a competency, he retired from business, and spent his time in literary enjoyment, which was his favorite pursuit. He became a member of the American Philosophical Society, and a Trustee of the University of Pennsylvania. He contributed several articles on American Conchology to "Silliman's Journal," and also occasionally to other periodicals. When a Trustee of the University of Pennsylvania he visited England. On his return, in 1834, he made a learned report to the Board, of which he was a member, on the

condition of the Universities at Cambridge and at Oxford. He also published "Letters Descriptive of the Virginia Springs;" "A Pleasant Peregrination through the Prettiest Part of Pennsylvania;" "Remarks on Literary Property;" and various papers on "Free Trade." He manifested great interest in the cause of free trade; was a member of the Free Trade Convention which met at Philadelphia in 1831; and was the author of the "Exposition of the Operation of the Tariff System, in Relation to Books, Bookbinding, Printing, and Printing Paper," which was published among the documents annexed to the public report of that Convention. Mr. Nicklin was also an active member of several charitable societies, particularly of the missionary and other societies connected with the Protestant Episcopal Church, of which he was a devoted friend. In the midst of his public usefulness, and without the premonitions of gradual decay in health, Mr. Nicklin died suddenly, at Philadelphia, March 2d, 1842, aged fifty-six years.

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## COLONEL JOHN NIXON.

COLONEL JOHN NIXON was a native of West Chester, Pennsylvania, and a merchant of Philadelphia. His father, Richard Nixon, was born in Wexford, Ireland. Colonel Nixon was an ardent, active, and most efficient friend of America in the Revolutionary struggle. He was with his regiment at the battle on Long Island, and wintered at Valley Forge. He was for some time an Alderman of Philadelphia, and had the honor of first reading the Declaration of Independence, on the 12th July, 1776, to the people assembled in Independence Square. This he did from the central window of the State House fronting the Square, during the tolling of the bell, on which had been engraved twenty-three years before these prophetic words: "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof." Lev. 25: 10.

The country-seat of Colonel Nixon was burned by the British troops. He served as the first of the two directors of the famous Bank of Pennsylvania, established in 1780, for supplying the Army

of the United States with provisions, and subscribed £5000 for that purpose. After the establishment of the Bank of North America in 1782, which appears to have sprung from the Bank of Pennsylvania, he was made President of it, and continued in that office until his death. He carried the colors at the procession after the establishment of the Constitution of the United States. In his person, Colonel Nixon is described as a remarkably fine portly man. His talents, patriotism, integrity, and many virtues, won for him the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens. He died about January 1st, 1809. Several of his descendants still live in Philadelphia.

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## JOSEPH PARKER NORRIS.

"It is a reverend thing to see an ancient building not in decay, or a fair timber tree sound and perfect. How much more, to behold an ancient family that has stood against the waves and weathers of time."

BACON.

JOSEPH PARKER NORRIS was born in Philadelphia, on the 5th of May, 1763. He was the great grandson of Governor Thomas Lloyd, and grandson of Isaac Norris, the elder.

Watson in his Annals remarks, that the name of Norris has been remarkable for its long continuance in public life, from the origin of the city to the period of the Revolution. The first Isaac Norris came to our city as a respectable merchant from Jamaica, where his father, Thomas Norris, a London merchant, had settled in 1678, with his family, on account of the persecutions of the Quakers in England, which sect he had joined some years previously. They all perished, except his son Isaac, in the great earthquake which destroyed Port Royal, in 1692. Immediately after this awful event, Isaac, the only survivor of his family, determined to abandon a land that had been the grave of all his near relations, and he emigrated to Philadelphia. Shortly after his arrival, he married Mary, the youngest daughter of Governor Thomas Lloyd, and became the founder of a large family here. He embarked largely in commercial business, and was very successful in his pursuits.

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In 1706, from "curiosity and a desire to visit his relatives, and the home of his ancestors," he went over to England with his wife and eldest son, Isaac, where he remained nearly two years. Soon after his return, he retired in a great measure from trade, and shortly afterwards he complains of old age approaching, and writes to London for a coach. This was a rare thing then; for Watson states, with antiquarian accuracy, that there were but four in the city. Though a very strict Friend, he appears to have retained some pride of ancestry; for, in ordering the carriage, he directs his family coat of arms, "three falcon heads," to be quartered upon it. He then resided in the "Slate-roof House," in Second Street, which he purchased from William Trent, the founder of Trenton, and which Logan in vain persuaded Penn to purchase, as the most suitable residence for a Governor, to be found in the city. He had previously purchased from Penn "Norriton Manor," in Montgomery County, which embraced a large tract of land of several thousand acres, and where he at first designed to erect a country mansion, but afterwards changed his intention. This tract includes the present town of Norristown, which took its name from him, and the whole of Norriton Township.

About this period he purchased "Fair Hill," a large tract of land to the north of the city, for a country-seat, where he built the original mansion, whither he removed from the Slate-roof House and made it his permanent residence, on account of its being more convenient to the city than Norriton Manor. This house, which stood on rising ground, was in its day a very grand mansion, and a place of great celebrity, with a large front of sixty feet. It was surrounded by forest and evergreen trees of a majestic growth, and well-arranged shrubbery. It commanded a beautiful prospect of the city, with a distant view of the Delaware, which added to the picturesque beauty of the grounds, and formed a beautiful boundary to the landscape. The mansion was two stories high, and most substantially built, with a very wide hall running through its centre. The library was papered, but the parlors and hall were wainscotted with oak and red cedar unpainted, but polished with wax, and kept in bright and handsome order, by constant rubbing. The carriage-way was finely graduated, and wound through an extensive lawn, from its approach on the Germantown Road, which was



bordered with shrubbery. The pleasure-grounds, lawn, greenhouse and gardens, fish-ponds, and walks, embraced a large area of several acres in extent.

The garden was a spot of great elegance and floral beauty. The inmates of the family regarded it as the parent of human pleasures. It was quite extensive, and kept in the highest state of cultivation, and filled with a profusion of rare plants, beautiful flowers, and fine fruits. It was laid out in the old English style of square parterres and beds, and regularly intersected by gravelled and grass-walks and alleys, with clipped hedges. Pastorius, who was himself a most distinguished cultivator, and an excellent judge, gives the praise of the greenhouse and garden to the ladies of the family, who were great lovers of nature, and enthusiastic gardeners. Everything which related to the garden, the lawn, and the pleasure-grounds, received their immediate attention. The garden, he pronounced the finest he had seen in the whole country. The original proprietor was distinguished no less than the son, for his liberal encouragement of horticulture; importing, even in these early colonial times, at considerable cost, several of the finest kinds of French fruits. Here, too, were the first specimens of the catalpa trees that were seen in the Province, which were brought from the southern Colonies; and here, too, were seen the first specimens of the willow-tree, a twig of which Franklin accidentally observed sprouting in a basket which was just brought on shore, from the hold of a ship, and which he presented to Miss Debby Norris, a daughter of the elder Isaac Norris, as the most successful cultivator that he knew.

John Adams, in his Diary, records that he dined at Fair Hill, whilst a delegate to Philadelphia, in 1774, when it was occupied by John Dickinson, and was greatly struck with its imposing appearance and beautiful prospect of the city, the river, and the country, its fine gardens, and "very grand library," which was collected by Speaker Norris, the father of Mrs. Dickinson.

The Fair Hill house was afterwards burnt by a detachment of the British army, under the command of Colonel Twizzleton, afterwards Lord Say and Sele, during the War of the Revolution, under the belief that it was owned by "the rebel Dickinson," who then resided there. Mrs. Logan, in a letter to Major Garden,



written in 1822, speaking of this event, says, that, upon this eventful night, from the roof of her mother's house, in Chestnut Street, she counted the flames of seventeen fires, one of which she knew to be the beautiful seat of Fair Hill, built by her grandfather, Norris, and owned by his family, but then in the occupation of John Dickinson. It was full of furniture, and part of the valuable library, which the pressure of the times had prevented the family from removing when they sought their safety in flight.

The elder Isaac Norris was a man of strong natural parts, which had been improved by education. He was of considerable note and eminence in the Province, and exercised great influence in its councils, as well as in the Society of Friends, of which he was a member and elder. His letter-books and papers show him to have been a man of ardent temperament, of well-trained business habits, great method, and energetic in everything which he undertook. He seems to have possessed, in a high degree, those generous feelings and that kindness of heart which characterized so many of the early settlers here; and a very marked and most estimable trait in his character, as shown by his letters throughout life, was the constant remembrance and the substantial assistance which he gave to his poorer relatives and friends. The great care which he bestowed on the education of his children, marks the high estimate he put upon learning. Proofs are still extant to show that all of his six sons were proficient in the learned languages, as well as lovers of polite literature. He was repeatedly chosen to represent the city in the General Assembly, and held the offices of Mayor and President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia; and, upon the death of David Lloyd, who was the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Chief Justiceship was tendered to him; but, after holding it under consideration for a short time, he wisely declined the offer, not deeming himself sufficiently qualified, from his commercial education, to fill so high and responsible an office, which, he very properly thought, should be filled by a person skilled and educated in the profession, and not by a layman. In doing so, he not only displayed his good common sense, but was far in advance of the ordinary practice that prevailed of filling the office with laymen, and not with professional judges. Proud states that he was the Chief Justice at the time of his death; but he was

probably led into this error from confounding the office of President, or *chief Judge*, of the Court of Common Pleas, which he did hold, with that of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. In addition to the office of Judge, he was a member of the Governor's Council for upwards of thirty years, and was named by Penn, in his will, one of the trustees of the Province.

The possession of sound sense and sterling integrity gained him the love and respect of all. He is described, by Franklin, as one "whose character will do honor to his latest posterity. Adorer of justice, a lover of mercy, a loving husband, affectionate father, sincere friend, and a lover of his country." He died in a public meeting of worship, in the Germantown Meeting-House, of an apoplectic fit, on the 4th of June, 1735, and was buried in that part of Friends' Burial-Ground, on Arch Street, which was reserved for the Lloyd and Norris family.

The father was immediately succeeded in public life by his son, Isaac Norris, the younger, who was educated as a merchant. He married the daughter of James Logan, of Stenton, the distinguished secretary of the Province for so long a time, and the learned friend of William Penn. He now retired from commercial pursuits and resided at Fair Hill, the seat of his father. Here he passed his life in study, of which he was passionately fond, and in the service of the Province. He was a member of the Assembly for thirty years, and the latter half of which period he was their Speaker. He immediately became an active, prominent, and influential member of the House, and was, until his elevation to the Speakership, in 1750, either chairman or a member of every important committee. For a long time he conducted the correspondence of the Province with the agents in England; and, in the bitter contests between the House and Governor Thomas, arising from the jealousy with which the former guarded the rights and privileges of the people from the attempted encroachments of the Government, he took a warm, active, and leading part in favor of the rights of the people; and many of the leading addresses to the Governor emanated from his pen. He was distinguished, notwithstanding his alliance with Logan, as an active opponent of the proprietary interest, steadily resisting and opposing all their encroachments on the rights of the people. The preservation of the civil rights of the people against

the usurpations and oppressions attempted by the proprietaries, enlisted his attention from the very commencement of his public career, and they were ever uppermost in his thoughts afterwards. The proprietary party, a few years after his election, finding him a sharp thorn in their path, made a strenuous effort to displace him, which caused the celebrated *Bloody Election*, as it was called, of 1741, in which they were completely vanquished by the Norris partisans, who were assisted by the Germans. It was a great victory for the people over the proprietary party.

In the great question of the propriety, justice, and policy of taxing the proprietary estate for the defence of the Province, he was, with Franklin, a warm and steady advocate, for which he received a liberal share of abuse from Thomas Penn, who managed the interests of the family. It was on one of these questions, while he was Speaker, the House having resolved itself into a committee of the whole, that he left the chair, and concluded an able speech, with all the fire of youthful patriotism and the dignity of venerable old age combined, strongly urging the justice and expediency of the measure, saying, "No man shall ever stamp his foot on my grave and say, 'Curse him!' or 'Here lies one who basely betrayed the liberties of his country.'"

So popular was he with his constituents and with the House, that not only did the Penn party, although backed with all their influence and power, invariably fail in all their efforts to prevent his return to the House, and thus to defeat his election to the Speakership, which then was the office of power and influence next to that of the Governor; but the Assembly frequently adjourned, when he was prevented by indisposition from attending, to his brother Charles's house, in Chestnut Street, where he stayed during the sessions of the Legislature, in order that they might have the benefit of his personal attendance and counsel.

At a later period of our colonial history, when the disputes between the people and the proprietaries reached their highest point, it was proposed to petition the King for a change of the proprietary into a regal government. The Speaker, although he had hitherto constantly acted with Franklin and others who resisted the proprietary encroachments, was opposed to this change. He, with Dickinson, believed that the rights and privileges of the peo-

ple, which they most valued, were secured by their charter, and if the Government should devolve upon the King, their charter might be abrogated, or at least such restraints would be imposed upon it, which would abridge, if not annihilate, the freedom they enjoyed under it.

In May, 1764, the Assembly determined to petition the King for the change of government, and they resolved that the petition, which was prepared by Franklin, should be transcribed and signed by the Speaker and forwarded to the King. Against this petition Dickinson made his famous speech, and after its passage, offered a protest to be entered on their minutes, which the House refused to receive. The Speaker, who was exceedingly indisposed at this sitting, and who, from the nature of his office as the presiding officer, could not join in the protest or take any part in the debate, finding matters pushed to this extremity, informed the House, "That for thirty years past he had had the honor of serving as a representative of the people of this Province, and for more than half that time as Speaker. That in these offices he had uniformly endeavored, according to the best of his judgment, to promote the public good. That the subject of the present debate was a matter of the utmost importance to the Province. That, as his sentiments on the occasion were very different from those of the majority, and his seat in the chair prevented him from entering into the debate, he therefore prayed the House that if, in consequence of their order, his duty should oblige him to sign the petition as Speaker, he might be permitted to offer his sentiments on the subject before he signed it, and that they might be entered on the minutes."

This request was granted, and the House adjourned to the following morning; but the long sitting of the previous day, and the excitement of the debate which had occurred, proved too much for the feeble health of this aged and faithful servant of the House, and rendered it impossible for him, from indisposition, to attend. He then resigned his seat as Speaker. The House unanimously thanked him for the long and faithful services he had rendered the Province as their Speaker, in which station, they say, "he has given a constant and equal attention to the rights and service of the Crown and the privileges of the people." They also expressed their "sincere and ardent wishes for the speedy recovery of his



health and his return to public business, and at the same time expressed their extreme concern, that at so important a juncture they were deprived by sickness of that assistance his great experience, judgment, and abilities might have afforded them."

The increasing weakness of his constitution obliged him to relinquish public life, and he died shortly after, in the sixty-fifth year of his age.

The Speaker was a man who had high natural endowments. He had received an excellent education; for in addition to a good knowledge of the Hebrew, he wrote in Latin and French with ease and facility, and his reading was very extensive. He possessed a fine library, containing many of the best editions of the classics, and was a liberal patron of literature and science. He was respected by all parties for his integrity, patriotism, abilities, and public spirit. With the history of the Province for the thirty years that he was in the Legislature, his name is indissolubly connected, and his character will be best seen by an examination of the public documents and authentic records of the times, as contained in their "Votes," published in three volumes folio. His motives were ever pure and patriotic. A cotemporary, speaking of him, says, that "in all his long public career he never asked a vote to get into the House, or solicited any member for employments or posts of private advantage." By his constituents he was ever esteemed and confided in as a disinterested, zealous, and able advocate, and in private life maintained the character of a kind relative, firm friend, and high-bred gentleman.

The portion of his fine library that was removed from Fair Hill, before its destruction by the British, became the property of Governor Dickinson, his son-in-law, who subsequently presented it to Dickinson College, in honor of that institution being called after him, where it now remains.

Charles Norris, the brother of the Speaker, and the father of the late Joseph Parker Norris, built the Norris House in Chestnut Street, which was pulled down, in 1819, to make room for the Bank of the United States, now the Custom-House. He married the daughter and only child of Joseph Parker, of Chester, by whom he left four children. He had been brought up a merchant, visited Europe, and upon his return entered into business. Afterwards,



he became one of the Trustees of the General Loan Office of the Province, and took an active part in the foundation of the Pennsylvania Hospital, of which he was the first treasurer, and devoted much of his leisure time to agriculture and gardening. He died of dropsy, in January, 1766, in the fifty-fourth year of his age.

Joseph Parker Norris, the subject of this memoir, was placed, at an early age, at the school of Robert Proud, the historian, where he continued till his education was completed; and leaving it, he entered the counting-house of John Ross, one of the most considerable merchants of his day. Upon the expiration of his apprenticeship he visited Europe, and after a tour of two years returned, in June, 1787. In 1808, upon the death of his brother-in-law, Samuel M. Fox, he was elected President of the Bank of Pennsylvania, which office he continued to fill till a short period prior to his death, when he resigned it, after an administration of thirty-three years: a longer period of time, it is believed, than any similar office had ever been held by any individual in this country.

In the Philadelphia Library Company he ever took a warm interest. In early life he was chosen Treasurer of that institution, which office he resigned after two years' service, upon being elected a Director, which latter post he held for upwards of forty-five years.

Mr. Norris was a fair classical scholar, and a great reader, delighting particularly in the departments of history and biography. In all matters relating to the early settlement of our country he was minutely versed; and his mind was richly stored with facts, anecdotes, and traditions, in regard to the families and doings of the first settlers in Pennsylvania, which, it is much to be regretted, he never, to any great extent, committed to paper. Throughout life he was marked for unimpeachable integrity and unostentatious charity; and to these were joined a sound judgment of men and things, great prudence, firmness, and decision of purpose. In person he was tall, and, in latter life, rather corpulent. In manners he was dignified, kind, and affable. To his children he was one of the fondest and most indulgent of fathers, and his greatest pleasure was to be surrounded at his own fireside by his large family. A member of the Society of Friends by birth, though not conforming to their usages in attire and language, he was a regular attendant

upon their religious meetings. Uniting, in his own character, the virtues and probity of his family, he has ever been, like those from whom he was descended, beloved and honored by his family and friends, and greatly esteemed by the public. His death occurred June 22d, 1841.

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### JOHN C. OTTO, M.D.

JOHN C. OTTO, M.D., an eminent physician and medical professor of Philadelphia, but a native of New Jersey, was born in 1775. His father, Dr. Bodo Otto, was one of the most distinguished physicians of his time, and was also an officer in the Revolutionary Army. The subject of this memoir was a successful practitioner in Philadelphia for nearly fifty years, sharing largely in the confidence and affection of that community, and of those in particular to whom he was professionally allied. He was also an attending physician in the Pennsylvania Hospital, and for many years was clinical lecturer in that institution, where his kindness and assiduity, not less than his skill, rendered him popular. His moral character was untarnished; his benevolence was large; and his scientific attainments gave him a high rank with Christians, philanthropists, and scholars. He died June 30th, 1845, aged seventy years.

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### JOHN PARKE.

IN 1786, in Philadelphia, a literary novelty, for the times, appeared in a volume entitled, "The Lyric Works of Horace, translated into English verse; to which are added a number of Original Poems, by a Native of America." They were printed by Eleazer Oswald, at the Coffee-House. This was John Parke, of whom we learn, from Mr. Fisher's notice of "The Early Poets of Pennsylvania," that he was probably a native of Delaware, and born about

the year 1750, since he was in the College at Philadelphia in 1768, and although he called himself a Philadelphian; that, "at the commencement of the war, he entered the American Army, and was attached, it is supposed, to Washington's division, for some of his pieces are dated at camp, in the neighborhood of Boston, and others at Whitemarsh, and Valley Forge. After the peace he was again for some time in Philadelphia, and is last heard of in Arundel County, Virginia."

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### JOSEPH PARRISH, M.D.

DR. PARRISH, an eminent physician of Philadelphia, was born in that city September 2d, 1779. His parents being Quakers, or Friends, he was educated in their school, and under the influence of the principles of that denomination. He studied Latin and French, and at a later period of life even Hebrew, for his own amusement, and to obtain a better knowledge of the Scriptures. He was early inclined to the profession of medicine, but owing to the objections of his parents, he pursued, until he was over twenty years of age, the business of his father, which was that of a hatter. At this time, he resolved to follow his own inclination, and commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Wistar, graduating as a physician from the University of Pennsylvania in 1806. In the beginning of his practice, he was appointed Resident Physician in the Yellow Fever Hospital, where he distinguished himself by a devoted attention to the duties of his station. Very soon after he published some scientific experiments which brought him into notice. In addition to this, he delivered a course of popular lectures on chemistry, which were at that time a novelty. The combined effect of the whole was to make him extraordinarily popular. His practice as a physician and surgeon increased in an unparalleled manner. From 1806 to 1812, he was one of the physicians of the Philadelphia Dispensary; from 1806 to 1822, Surgeon to the Philadelphia Almshouse; from 1816 to 1829, Surgeon to the Pennsylvania Hospital; and from 1835 to his death, Consulting Physician to the Philadel-

phia Dispensary. He had also an unprecedented number of medical students; at one time as many as thirty. In the midst of his extensive practice and his instructions to his pupils, Dr. Parrish took an active part in the proceedings of the College of Physicians, as well as of the Medical Society of Philadelphia, and was an active member of various philanthropic or benevolent institutions. He also contributed a number of medical and surgical papers to the periodical journals of the profession, and republished Lawrence's work on Hernia, with an appendix. The last and the principal of his publications was a treatise of his own upon "Hernia and the Diseases of the Urinary Organs." He was a skilful physician; was indebted for success in his career to a fortunate concatenation of circumstances; and was universally known as a good man, which gave him the confidence of all who were observant of his practice. He died in the midst of his usefulness, March 18th, 1840, in the sixty-first year of his age.

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## ISAAC PARRISH, M.D.

BY SAMUEL JACKSON, M.D.

DR. ISAAC PARRISH, son of Joseph Parrish, M.D., was born March 19th, 1811. His education was begun in the schools which were under the sole government of the Friends; and he spent several years in their well-known classical academy, where his father had imbibed the rudiments of Latin, as well as Drs. James and Wistar, Physick and Dorsey.

He began the study of medicine with his father in 1829, where he must have enjoyed many and peculiar advantages over students in nearly all other situations. He graduated in the University of Pennsylvania in 1832, just then entering on his twenty-second year. His thesis was written on "Spinal Irritation," and it may be fairly considered as a very respectable performance for a man so young, giving thus early a good specimen of that clearness of thought, and of that perspicuous, precise, didactic style, which distinguished the

author in riper years. He had spent the last year of his pupilage in the Blockley Hospital, and his experience therein appears to have suggested to him the subject of his thesis. Having been written from nature, it proved to be of so much importance that it was honored with a place in "The American Journal of the Medical Sciences" for August, 1832.

He was elected, in 1834, one of the Surgeons of Wills Hospital, to which he was ardently devoted during the rest of his life, a space of eighteen years.

The same year, he was married to Sarah Redwood Longstreth, daughter of Samuel Longstreth, a respectable merchant of Philadelphia. In this alliance, his elder brother writes, "he found a most congenial companion, who shared with him the toils and anxieties of life during a happy union of eighteen years." With respect to his domestic and civil relations, he was a truly exemplary man; a tender husband and father, an affectionate brother, a kind neighbor. No disinterested man ever had reason to complain of his conduct and bearing; so that we may say of him as it was said of Sir Joshua Reynolds, "that if any man had quarrelled with him, he could not have found it possible to abuse him."

The accumulation of property he almost wholly disregarded. He did not affect to despise money, nor did he part with it imprudently; but he did not seek riches as earnestly as most other men, even the good, are accustomed to do. Leaving his pecuniary affairs to his wife and older brother, he pursued the even tenor of his placid way, in visiting the sick and relieving the distressed.

He breathed his last, without pain or struggle, about one o'clock, on Saturday, July 31, 1852, in the forty-second year of his age.

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## FRANCIS DANIEL PASTORIUS.

MR. PASTORIUS arrived in Philadelphia in 1683, and was the founder of Germantown. He came over in the ship *America*, Captain Joseph Wasey, from England, which was chased, it was feared, "by the cruel and enslaving Turks." He thus describes the features of the city plot: "The fortunate day of our arrival,



on the 20th of June, 1683, I was glad to land from the vessel every whit as St. Paul's shipmates were to land at Melita. Then Philadelphia consisted of three or four little cottages, such as Edward Drinker's, Seven Sener's, &c., all the residue being only woods, underwoods, timber, and trees, among which I several times have lost myself in travelling no farther than from the water side, where was his cave, to the house, now of our friend William Hudson, then allotted to a Dutch baker, whose name was Cornelius Bom. What my thoughts were of such a renowned city (I not long before having seen London, Paris, Amsterdam, Gandt, &c.), is needless to rehearse; but what I think now (in 1718, when he wrote), I dare ingenuously say, viz., that God has made of a desert an inclosed garden, and the plantations about it a fruitful field."

In the Cambridge Library there is a German pamphlet, 12mo. of 44 pages, printed at Memmingen, by Andrew Seyler, 1792, the title of which is "A Geographical, Statistical Description of the Province of Pennsylvania," by Francis Daniel Pastorius, in an extract ("Im Auszug"), with notes. It contains several facts from 1683 to 1699, with an account of the Indians, &c., that would much illustrate our early history. Pastorius was a very sensible man, and a good scholar, who lived during the above time in Germantown as a chief magistrate there.

An historical writer, speaking of our city, says: "Among the primitive population of Philadelphia County there were some very fine scholars, such as Thomas Lloyd, Thomas Story, F. D. Pastorius, James Logan, John Kelpius, and others. Lloyd and Pastorius came over in 1683, in the same ship, and ever after were very great friends. Pastorius was a writer of numerous pieces during his thirty-six years' residence in the Colony. He left a beautifully written quarto book of about three hundred pages, of various selections and original remarks, entitled 'The Bee.' It was with his grandson, Daniel Pastorius, in Germantown, until lately, and has got lost by the negligence of some of its readers. John F. Watson, in his 'Annals,' says he has in his possession some of the manuscript books of F. D. Pastorius, dated in A.D. 1714. He was born in Germany, October 4th, A.D. 1651, at a place called Limpurg. The contents of one book are principally dedicatory letters, acrostics, and poems, to his friends, the three daughters of Thomas

Lloyd, being annual compositions commemorative of his and their safe landing at Philadelphia. All his writings embrace much of piety. Those ladies he treats as eminently religious, to wit, Rachel Preston, Hannah Hill, and Mary Norris, each bearing the name of her husband."

The original of the following curious paper was in the possession of John Johnson, Esq.

"We whose names are to these presents subscribed, do hereby certify unto all whom it may concern, that soon after our arrival in this Province of Pennsylvania, in October, 1683, to our certain knowledge, Herman op den Graff, Dirk op den Graff, and Abraham op den Graff, as well as we ourselves, in the care of Francis Daniel Pastorius, at Philadelphia, did cast lots for the respective lots which they and we then began to settle in Germantown; and the said Graffs (three brothers) have sold their several lots, each by himself, no less than if a division in writing had been made by them. Witness our hands this 29th November, A.D. 1709, Lenart Arets, Jan Lensen, Thomas Herndus, William Streygert, Abraham Tunes, Jan Lucken, Reiner Tysen."

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## ROBERT PATTERSON, LL.D.

ROBERT PATTERSON, LL.D., President of the American Philosophical Society, was born in the North of Ireland, May 30th, 1743. In 1768, he emigrated to Philadelphia. In 1774, he was appointed Principal of the Academy at Wilmington, Delaware. In the Revolutionary War he acted as Brigade Major. In 1779, he was appointed Professor of Mathematics in the University of Pennsylvania, and then Vice-Provost. He was succeeded by his son of the same name in 1814. In 1805, he was appointed Director of the Mint of the United States. In 1819, he was President of the American Philosophical Society. He died July 22d, 1824, aged eighty-one years. In the "Transactions of the Philosophical Society" he published many papers. A remarkable trait of his character was his

fervent piety; it influenced all his conduct from his youth. He was an Elder of the Scotch Presbyterian Church nearly half a century.

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## ROBERT M. PATTERSON, M.D.

DR. PATTERSON was born in Philadelphia, and was the son of Robert Patterson, at one time President of the American Philosophical Society.

On completing his education as a chemist under Sir Humphry Davy, he returned, in 1812, to his native country, and soon after was elected Professor of Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, and Mathematics, in the University of Pennsylvania.

In 1828, he accepted a Professorship in the University of Virginia, where he remained until 1835, when he was appointed Director of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, which office he held until 1853, when his declining health induced him to resign.

Dr. Patterson was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society in 1809, in his twenty-second year, at an earlier age than any person previously admitted. He was a most active participant in the labors of the Society, and contributed largely, both by oral and written communications, to the interest of its proceedings. He delivered, May 25th, 1843, while Vice-President, a discourse on the early history of the American Philosophical Society, pronounced, by appointment of the Society, at the celebration of its hundredth anniversary. It closes with the reorganization of the association, March 5, 1779. Dr. R. M. Patterson was elected President of the Society in 1849. He died in Philadelphia, September 5th, 1854, aged sixty-eight years. He married a daughter of the late Thomas Leiper.

## HENRY S. PATTERSON, M.D.

THE prescribed limits of this article will allow but a very imperfect notice of its subject; and hence, it does not pretend to narrate fully the personal history or portray the character of one whose versatility of genius and extensive range of observation brought him in contact so much with science, literature, and art; whose high personal character distinguished him, during his too brief life, as a man of note in his time; and caused his early death to be mourned by so many, who greatly loved and respected him.

Dr. Henry Stuart Patterson was born in the city of Philadelphia, on 15th August, 1815. His father, Mr. John Patterson, a much-respected citizen and merchant of Philadelphia, was a native of the North of Ireland, who came to this country in the closing year of the last century, and here married a daughter of Colonel Stuart, of the Revolutionary Army. The subject of our notice was the youngest child, a sensitive, gentle, and studious boy in school; elsewhere he entered upon boyish pursuits and recreations with the earnestness which always marked his efforts in any direction.

The usual preparatory instruction, and, afterward, the best mathematical and classical schools, afforded him his opportunities and incentive to study. Very early in life, by his close application, he laid the strong foundations on which afterward he built his accurate and extensive learning. The study and practice of medicine was his early and decided choice, and this he was permitted to pursue.

A graduate of the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, and a private student of the late venerable and eminent Dr. Joseph Parrish, with a most diligent use of the opportunities thus afforded he came forth, in every proper sense, the "good physician," and commenced the practice of his noble art in the city of his birth.

In 1839, he was appointed one of the Resident Physicians of the Philadelphia Almshouse, where he remained two years, when he







relinquished that position, and again entered upon general practice, and was soon after appointed Physician to the Philadelphia Dispensary.

In November, 1843, upon the reorganization of the Faculty of the Medical Department of Pennsylvania College, the chair of *Materia Medica* in that institution was accepted by him; and, during the first year, he performed the duties of the chair of Chemistry also.

In 1846, he was appointed Physician-in-chief to the Philadelphia Almshouse, Blockley, the duties of which he performed during two years with great industry and success, at the same time continuing his medical lectures, and contributing largely to the medical and general literature of the day. His continued labors made a sensible impression on the condition of his health; and, in 1852, he sought relief and restoration by a voyage to Europe. He was received in Great Britain and on the Continent by medical and literary men with a cordial welcome. On his return, in the autumn of that year, it was observed, with painful solicitude, by his family and friends, that his disease had alarmingly progressed, and, as a last hope, in the winter of 1852 and 1853, he visited Georgia and Florida, and there remained until the following spring. The next summer he passed with his family on Chestnut Hill, near Philadelphia, but the repose of his quiet life in that beautiful region, and the affectionate care of his family and friends, failed to arrest the progress of the fatal disease, and he returned to his home in the city to take to his bed, where he remained until his death, in April, 1854, a period of confinement of more than six months. It was during this last sickness, and near its close, he wrote his last literary composition, the admirable "Biography of Dr. Samuel G. Morton." It was written with pencils on slips of paper, attached to a small piece of wood, and so adjusted as to enable him to write without taking a sitting posture, or lifting his head from the pillow, which he was unable to do. It was most affecting to behold the dying eulogizing the dead. This memoir of Dr. Morton closes with this sentence, the last he ever wrote: "I conclude this notice, the preparation of which has been to me a labor of love, and the solace for a season of a bed of suffering."

In attempting to make a proper estimate of Dr. Patterson it is

difficult to do justice to the variety and extent of his knowledge, or to disclose to those who did not know him well the great attractiveness of his character. In his own home, and with his family and its intimacies, he shone most brightly. He was marked by an amiable disposition, and a serenity of manner flowing from his strong religious faith, which was the principle of his life, governed his intercourse with all.

“Generous and genial, possessing a tone of mind and feeling that lifted him above the littleness of envy and deceit, his common and daily acts impressed men with his sincerity and justice. His conversation and writings revealed the affluence of a cultivated mind, and the heroism, the purity, and spiritual beauty that he portrayed, were the echoes of a soul that answered but to the inspiration of Truth.”

Dr. Patterson was a learned man. He had mastered the knowledge of many languages. He understood the German from its root, and knew the French as well. The Latin tongue was as familiar to him as the English, and he had easily acquired a thorough knowledge of Italian. In the classical poetry of that language he was very conversant and ready at all times. Without pretence to having acquired Egyptian or Assyrian philology, he had read much in archæological themes, and taking great interest in Oriental Symbolism, was preparing notes for a publication on Ancient Mysteries. He excelled as a lecturer; he had the happy faculty of securing the close attention of his auditors. As a writer, his style was forcible, lucid, and frequently poetical. His numerous lectures, essays, &c., are models of beautiful composition.

As a physician, he took a high stand; and the esteem in which he was held by all who knew him in that profession, is well expressed by an extract from a letter of one of Philadelphia's most respectable medical practitioners, who says:—

“Dr. Patterson was thoroughly imbued with a knowledge of his profession in all its departments. Being well acquainted with the history of medicine, he was familiar not only with the names of the great medical men, ancient and modern, but with the doctrines they taught, the improvements they promulgated, and with the condition of the healing art in different ages and countries.

“Such knowledge presupposes a mind highly enriched with medi-

cal literature; and here was his great pre-eminence. His attainments were singularly varied. Thoroughly versed in all the medical knowledge of the day, and keeping pace with its progress by frequent application to the works of recent authors, and to the medical and scientific periodicals, he yet found time for those departments of science which, though strictly considered not belonging to the profession, are closely allied to it, and both receive from and reflect light to it. Among the kindred sciences to which he paid special attention may be mentioned, comparative anatomy and physiology, chemistry, botany, pharmacy, mineralogy, entomology, &c., the acquisition of which seemed to constitute the amusement of his spare hours. The successful prosecution of such studies demanded depth and variety of knowledge. Not satisfied with a mere superficial acquaintance with any department of science, before he entered on his investigations he laid his foundation deep and strong. It was this, no doubt, which led him to extend far and wide his researches into the natural sciences, to cultivate polite literature, and to study various languages, ancient and modern,—Hebrew, Syriac, Greek, Latin, French, Italian, and German,—making him the acute philological critic, and the biblical historian and expositor.

“It might be supposed that such profound studies, although adding valuable resources to the profession, would make their student an enthusiast and dreamer. But not so. With all his profundity and variety of knowledge, Dr. Patterson was a practical and skilful physician. He possessed the rare and happy faculty of subjecting every theory to the crucible of experience. Every fact was made subservient to some great end, and his practice constantly furnished him with opportunities of putting them into exercise. Thus he was not only the learned, but also the skilful physician.

“He was the honorable physician. As humility always accompanies true greatness, so his brilliant and cultivated mind did not show itself in pride and arrogance. The golden rule of Christianity seemed to be ever before him, and to lie at the root of all his actions. In consultations, he was the true gentleman. Unostentatious and unassuming, he was ever frank, open, and true; and yet with all his gentleness and apparent timidity, there was in him a strong and unflinching will, which it was impossible to resist. It was only

exercised, however, when truth and the welfare of the sick demanded it.

“Another distinguishing trait of character was his abhorrence of everything that savored of quackery and charlatanism. His ardent love of truth was totally and irreconcilably opposed to everything like pretence. He had no toleration of falsehood, in any shape or form.

“His patients loved him with a fervid and unfading love; they respected him for his knowledge, and the power it gave him to relieve them; but most of all for the confidence they had in his integrity: they knew that nothing could divert him from the path of truth and duty. To the poor, his services were most freely granted. His faithful devotion to them, while Physician to the Philadelphia Dispensary, is still most gratefully remembered. His efficient services while chief Physician to the Almshouse, have been publicly acknowledged. He remodelled the institution, in its medical relations; reorganized the lunatic department, introducing many ameliorations; regulated the duties of house physician, surgeon, and nurses, and retired with the respect of all.

“He took an early and prominent part in the discussion of the question of capital punishment, and contributed largely, by his pen and voice, to the interest which was publicly expressed on that subject.

“He had a high appreciation and critical knowledge of the fine arts, and earnestly contended for the encouragement and assertion of the independence of American art. He regarded this view of the subject as deserving a consideration which it had never received; and thus speaks: ‘There is no reason why we should not speedily see in our country a development of the fine arts equal to that of the age of Pericles, or the palmiest days of Italian culture. Have we not among us men and a capacity of high art? Have we no themes for art? The world over you do not find ampler scope for the powers of the landscape painter, or subjects more varied and imposing for the historical artist. There is nothing unreasonable in the demand for a distinctive school of American art. We all recognize the claim for a specific national literature, which shall no longer copy the stale models of Europe, but be fully up to the mark of an advanced thought and liberal sentiment. Is there any reason



why the same thought should not also have an artistic expression equally peculiar and distinctive?

“ ‘ If we are to consider the artist as the mere copyist of nature, simply transferring to the canvas or the marble whatever of picturesque or graceful he sees around him, then is this claim untenable. But if we regard him in his true light as a poet and creator, then is it natural and inevitable. Regarded thus, the function of the artist is not so much to imitate for us natural beauty, as to reveal to us new beauty, and carry our imaginations with him into regions of ideality, far surpassing the concrete around us. All high art is, therefore, justly characterized as symbolic. When it collects from a hundred natural sources their special points of beauty, and throws them on the canvas in one glowing mass of loveliness, as in landscape composition, it enters the field of poetry, and in its painted pastoral becomes creator in a certain sense. But more especially, when it is the revelation to us of the inner world of a gifted spirit, it becomes epic in its scope, carries us up with him to his high region of contemplation, and exalts and purifies us, while it glorifies and idealizes the subject it depicts. ‘ To such an art, how many glorious subjects are presented by the free and generous spirit of our time,—its stern rebuke of all oppression, spiritual and temporal,—its assertion of man’s equal rights,—its resistless claim for the ascendancy of the sweet charities of life over the hard and destructive elements of our nature! And how peculiarly American would it be, thus conceived and developed,—passing beyond the ideal perfection of individual beauty, expressed by Grecian, and beyond the magnificent literal scripturalism displayed by Italian art, and standing out in the clear sunlight of an exalted Christian spiritualism.’

“ Had the life of this gifted man been spared a few years longer, Philadelphia would have recognized more publicly the virtues and abilities of one of her most brilliant and accomplished sons; but while, day by day, and year by year, he was steadily and rapidly rising to greater usefulness and higher fame, the shadows of death were drawing very near; and when the early spring of 1854 came, bringing with it to him increasing weakness of body, it became evident to all that the end was at hand. A few days before his death, his only son, a noble boy of five years, died; and the anguish

of this great grief (although he had manifestly in his heart the only consolation that can rob sorrow of its bitterness), doubtless hastened his own departure, and when a few days more of patient suffering had passed, and the last solemn hour arrived, that strong religious faith which from early life had guided him in safety through all perils, and which had controlled the unfolding beauty of his character, now sustained and comforted him at the close. Peacefully, and full of Christian hope, he went to his rest, having accomplished so much in his short life, and leaving so much unfinished, which none but he could do so well."

His remains were laid, by sorrowing relatives and friends, in Laurel Hill Cemetery, in a spot designated by himself only a few days before his death; and with a copy of the inscription on the memorial stone which marks his grave, we close this notice.

In  
Memory  
of  
HENRY STUART PATTERSON, M.D.  
Died, April 27, 1854,  
in his 39th year.

A lover of wisdom and of his kind,  
faithful and honored,  
in the schools of medicine  
and in the care of the sick;  
gentle, patient, and beloved,  
his many gifts, his varied attainments,  
and his ever ready kindness,  
made him the acceptable  
and efficient helper  
in all good enterprises.  
At Home,  
he was hospitable, kind, and instructive.  
Having finished his work,  
he gave this dying testimony  
of his faith.  
"I am passing under the cloud,  
and without a doubt  
His rod and his staff they comfort me."

## CHARLES WILSON PEALE.

MR. PEALE, of Philadelphia, during the war which led to the independence of the United States, served as a soldier, and painted in camp and in Philadelphia, a valuable collection of portraits, which was the foundation of his celebrated Museum. To these he added a large and most valuable collection of scientific and natural curiosities and works of art. It is greatly to be regretted that the city of Philadelphia allowed this collection of rare and valuable historical portraits of eminent American patriots and statesmen of the Revolution to be sold to strangers ; they should have been preserved as the property of the city, and placed in a building open to the public, under rules and regulations. When the compiler was a boy, Philadelphia and "Peale's Museum" used to be mentioned together, whether travelling in the United States or Europe.

There are many incidents in the life of Mr. Peale, which would be valuable to the history of his times could they be procured. His son, Rembrandt Peale, has still in his possession an original likeness of Washington taken by himself in 1798, considered by the best judges as superior to any of those taken by the celebrated painter, Gilbert Stuart. His last painting was a full-length portrait of himself, at the age of eighty-three.

He died in his eighty-fifth year, in 1826, not of old age, but by an affection of the heart, induced by over-exertion.

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## CHARLES PEIRCE.

BY I. L. PEIRCE, M.D.

CHARLES PEIRCE was born in Kittery, Maine, on the 29th of July, 1770. At an early age, he entered the office of the late John Melcher, of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to acquire a knowledge of the printing business. After passing two or three years with him,

he went to Boston, Massachusetts, on account of the greater facilities afforded him in the office of Major Russell for acquiring a more perfect knowledge of the business. Here he remained until the year 1793, when he returned to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and, in connection with his profession as printer, he opened a large bookstore, and also commenced the publication of a semi-weekly newspaper, entitled "The Oracle of the Day," but which, for many years past, has been continued under the name of "The Portsmouth Journal." On the 10th of March, 1793, previous to his removal to Portsmouth, he was married to Elizabeth Oliver, of Boston. Under the closest attention to business, they were blessed with a rapid accumulation of this world's goods, until the great fire of Portsmouth, in 1802, swept away every cent of property they possessed, except a partial insurance upon the house in which they resided. In addition to this misfortune, others of still greater moment occurred at the same time, consisting of the total blindness of Mrs. Peirce, and the death of one of their children. After being prostrated for several months by this accumulation of ills, Mr. Peirce rallied, rebuilt his house, and again entered into business with renewed vigor, but with such enfeebled health, that he was under the necessity of resigning his newspaper into other hands. His business soon became more prosperous than ever. Industry and kindness secured friendship, and prosperity and happiness crowned his efforts, until, in 1813, she, who had for twenty years been the faithful partner of his toils, was removed from him by death. In the spring of 1814, he removed to Philadelphia, where he resided until the 4th of July, 1816, at which time he was married to Francis V., daughter of the late Dr. Samuel Blair, of Germantown, to which place he then removed. During three of the nine years of his residence at Germantown, Mr. Peirce held the office of Clerk of the Mayor's Court of this city, to which he was appointed by Governor Heister. In 1825, he returned to Philadelphia, where he resided until September, 1848, at which time he removed to Bristol, Pennsylvania. In a few weeks after this change, Mrs. Peirce was, after a very short illness, called from works to rewards. This unexpected stroke fell so heavily upon the survivor, that, in his feeble state of health, it was thought he would soon follow her to the grave. But his cup of suffering was not yet full. His physical

infirmities increased in intensity, and his daily aspirations were, "Father, if it be thy will, take me to thyself; but not my will, thine only be done." In this manner he lingered on until the 23d of September, 1851, when his longing spirit was released, in the eighty-second year of his age.

While Mr. Peirce resided in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, his heart and his house were always open to cases of suffering and distress. Frequently he would receive into his own family the sick, and those whom he wished to assist in the benevolent work of reformation; and before the organization of charitable associations, during a winter of great destitution and distress, at the suggestion of his wife, whose soul was likewise always alive to the sufferings of others, Mr. Peirce raised by subscription a sufficient sum of money for the purpose, and twice in each week, for more than three months, he delivered from his own house several hundred four-pound loaves of the "staff of life," to those who were almost starving therefor. This probably laid the foundation in his mind of the establishment of Soup Societies in Philadelphia, of which he was so active a promoter after his removal to this city. Hundreds and thousands will probably recollect his untiring efforts in establishing and maintaining the Western Soup House of this city, which he personally superintended for many years. His collections by subscriptions enabled him not only to feed many thousands of hungry mouths every winter, but also to procure a lot, upon which he caused to be erected a suitable building for the purpose; thus establishing the Society upon a permanent basis.

Mr. Peirce's house was also always open to the reception of strangers of intelligence who visited Portsmouth; thus not only indulging his own fondness for cultivated society, but also giving them an opportunity of becoming acquainted with his interesting and intellectual companion, who, through the loss of her eyesight, was deprived of many of the enjoyments of life.

Mr. Peirce was brought more immediately before the public by his "Reviews of the Weather," which were for many years published monthly in the "United States Gazette." From January 1st, 1790, to January 1st, 1847, fifty-seven years, he kept an accurate account of the weather. His observations were recorded three times a day, interspersed with remarks on passing events and



interesting occurrences. Sunrise, two, and ten o'clock P.M., were his stated hours for noting the state of the weather, as these generally gave the extremes of the twenty-four hours. At the close of the year 1846, he found his bodily infirmities increasing with the advance of age to such an extent that he was reluctantly compelled to relinquish his favorite amusement, and at the request of his friends he compiled the result of his fifty-seven years of meteorological observations into a book of three hundred pages, which will no doubt be a standard reference upon the subject for many succeeding generations.

The most prominent characteristics of the subject of this memoir were love to God and love to man. The former was manifested by his deep and unaffected devotion; the latter, by his ready sympathy and active co-operation in all plans for the amelioration of the condition of his fellow-men. He was frequently called upon to deliver public addresses before benevolent associations, and to the inhabitants of our almshouses, and similar institutions, who were deprived of the benefit of regular religious instruction. He was ever ready to assist in the performance of devotional exercises.

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## WILLIAM PENN.

WILLIAM PENN, on the 4th March, 1681, by charter, dated at Westminster, was constituted full and absolute proprietor of Pennsylvania; and Charles II granted him letters patent for a tract of land lying north of the patent granted to Lord Baltimore, and bounded by the river Delaware on the east, now the State of Delaware. On the 5th May, 1682, he published, in England, his "Frame of Government for Pennsylvania." He was born in London, October 14th, 1644, and was the first proprietor of Pennsylvania. On the 24th October, 1682, he first arrived in America, in the ship *Welcome*, and landed at Newcastle, Delaware, with one hundred passengers; the next day, peaceable possession of the country was given him. Philadelphia was first chartered by him on the 25th October, 1701, and Edward Shippen was appointed

Mayor. On the 28th October, 1701, he granted Pennsylvania, and the counties now Delaware State, a charter of privileges, in which the liberty of conscience was fully recognized. The charter was, however, abolished, in consequence of the successful termination of the war of the Revolution, which placed the whole American family upon an equal footing in regard to their rights as freemen. He died, July 30th, 1718, at Rushcombe, near Twyford, in Buckinghamshire, England, aged about seventy-four years. He left his widow, Hannah, daughter of John Callowhill, and six children, living. He was succeeded by William, his eldest son, besides whom he had, by his first wife, a daughter named Letitia. By his second wife he had John, Thomas, Margaret, and Dennis, all left minors.

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## CHARLES B. PENROSE.

HON. CHARLES BIDDLE PENROSE, member of the State Senate from the city of Philadelphia, was born at his father's residence near the mouth of Frankford Creek, Philadelphia County, in the year 1791, and died April 6th, 1857. He had thus entered his sixty-seventh year. His father was a gentleman high in the estimation of the public, who was appointed by President Jefferson to a Judgeship in Missouri Territory, whither he removed with his family. Mr. Penrose was educated at Washington College in Pennsylvania, and soon after studied for the Bar. He commenced practice in Carlisle, and soon rose to distinction at a Bar which was confessedly, when its numbers are considered, equal to any in the country. He became also active as a politician, and took a leading part in many of the movements of the day. He was sent to the State Senate from the Cumberland District, for two terms of four years each, beginning with the year 1833, and during all that period there were few men who acted a more conspicuous part in the affairs of the Commonwealth. He was appointed Solicitor of the Treasury by President Harrison in 1841, and held the office till after the close of President Tyler's term. In 1849, he was appointed by Mr. Meredith Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; but this office

he resigned in a short time, and returning to Philadelphia, resumed the practice of his profession. During his residence there, he served one term in the Common Council of the city, and was elected in October, 1856, to the office of State Senator. He was one of the most active and efficient members of that body, and was probably the oldest Senator, with the exception of the venerable Senator from Alleghany, Hon. William Wilkins.

In addition to his labors in political life, Mr. Penrose did valuable service to the State by his earnest advocacy of important measures of internal improvement. He was the projector of the Cumberland Valley Railroad, and he labored zealously for years for the promotion of that enterprise. The obstacles it had to contend with were apparently insuperable, and there were not wanting malicious persons to misconstrue his motives and attempt to blacken his fame in connection with the measure. But he long outlived the few calumnies invented against him, and he lived also to see his favorite project not only accomplished, but an acknowledged valuable and lucrative public work. It is satisfactory to know that his labors in its behalf were not unrewarded, and that by his investments in it, and the profits of his laborious professional life, his family were sufficiently provided for.

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## ELLISTON PEROT.

ELLISTON PEROT was born in the island of Bermuda, on the 16th of March, 1747. When seven years old, he was sent to New York to be educated by his uncle Elliston, at that time Controller of the Customs, under whose auspices he spent five years at school at New Rochelle, in the then Province of New York; but before he finished his education, he met with an irreparable loss in the death of his uncle; after which he returned to Bermuda, where he remained until he became of age, when, having evinced a great attachment to mercantile pursuits, he again embarked for New York, and commenced business, having by the assistance of his friends in that city

obtained the consignment of goods, with which he proceeded to the West Indies.

In the year 1772, he entered into partnership with his brother, John Perot, under the firm of Elliston & John Perot, in the island of Dominica, where they continued until 1778, at which time, with the prospect of greater advantages, they removed to St. Christopher's, but not finding their expectations answered, after a short residence they left that place for St. Eustatius, then belonging to the Dutch Government, where they remained in uninterrupted prosperity until 1781, when that island was surprised and taken by the British fleet and army, under the command of Admiral Rodney and General Vaughan. At the time the fleet arrived in the harbor, the inhabitants were altogether unsuspicious of hostilities between Great Britain and Holland, and were much at a loss to conceive the object when they saw springs placed upon the cables of the men-of-war. This, however, was quickly explained by the landing of the troops ; and the forts being surprised, surrendered without resistance.

On a subsequent day, at 8 o'clock A.M., Elliston and John Perot entertained no apprehension of disturbance from any quarter, residing in a neutral island, but before 12 o'clock, they were prisoners of war, and all the property they possessed in the island was confiscated, and afterwards sold at public auction. They were, however, treated with personal respect, and every attention shown them, which their situation admitted, by the officers of the guard. They were detained as prisoners of war for some months, and when liberated Elliston went to England, when an attempt was made, in connection with others similarly situated, to prosecute Admiral Rodney and General Vaughan, for what they considered their illegal proceedings, and with a hope to recover damages for their loss ; but the endeavor proved unsuccessful. He continued about three years in Europe, during which period he visited Holland, Ireland, and France, moving in the first commercial circles in the different countries.

In 1784, he arrived in the United States, with the intention of making his permanent residence here, and commenced business in this country with his brother, John Perot, as merchants.

The first property they purchased was on the eastern side of

Water Street, between Market and Arch Streets, extending to the river Delaware, where he resided with his brother, and carried on business for several years under the same roof.

In the year 1786, he made application, and was admitted a member of the religious Society of Friends, at the Monthly Meeting of Philadelphia, in which district he resided the remainder of his life.

In 1787, 9th January, he married Sarah Sansom, only daughter of Samuel and Hannah Sansom, at the Bank Meeting-house, west side of Front, above Arch Street. After his marriage, his first residence was in the house No. 4 North Front Street, upon the Bank side, overlooking the Water Street establishment.

Although advancing into age, Elliston Perot had been blessed with excellent health until the autumn of 1820, when, at the Yellow Springs, he was attacked with influenza, which impaired his constitution, and left him subject to an asthmatic affection; with this abatement, he continued to enjoy good health until the 21st November, 1834, when he complained of some indisposition, and afterward appeared to sink from debility rather than from an attack of illness. During the course of the succeeding week he was calm and reflective, evidently preparing for the final change, being fully aware that he was passing through his last illness, of which he spoke frequently to his children and other attendants, and was favored with consciousness until near his close, when he quietly passed away, 28th November, 1834.

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## JOHN PEROT.

JOHN PEROT, the brother of Elliston Perot, an eminent merchant of Philadelphia, was born in Bermuda, the 3d of May, 1749. The early part of his life he passed upon that island. When about twenty years of age, he went to Virginia, and spent between two and three years with his uncle, John Mallory, in Isle of Wight County, from which place he made several voyages to the West Indies, in a vessel belonging to his uncle.



In 1772, he came from Bermuda to Philadelphia, where he and his friends loaded a vessel, with which he proceeded to Dominica. In 1781, he returned to Philadelphia, and settled; and in the year 1783, he married Mary Tybout, only child of Andrew Tybout, by his first wife.

In 1784, he commenced business in this country with his brother, Elliston Perot, as merchants, under the firm of Elliston and John Perot.

He died, in Philadelphia, 8th of January, A.D. 1841.

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## RICHARD PETERS.

BY SAMUEL BRECK.

RICHARD PETERS, who died on the 22d of August, 1828, at his residence in Blockley, was born in the month of June, 1744, in the same house in which he expired; and had, consequently, passed, by a few months, the great age of eighty-four years. He received his education in the city of Philadelphia, and on entering the active scenes of life, was a good Latin and Greek scholar, and possessed a knowledge of the French and German languages.

Having adopted the law as a profession, his acquaintance with the German greatly facilitated his country practice; while his intuitive smartness and steady industry placed him in the front rank of the young practitioners of the day. He had an uncle who was Secretary of the Colonial Government, and whose office was, as I think, connected with the land department. This uncle was fond of young Peters, and occasionally charged him with a part of the duties of his office. It was here, no doubt, that he became familiar with the land titles of the Province, and laid the foundation of the reputation he acquired in after times, of possessing an intimate knowledge of the land laws of the commonwealth, which in due time competently rewarded his labors.

He was accustomed at this time to display his unrivalled wit. The playfulness of his conversation, always enlivened by flashes

of the gayest pleasantry, was forever quick and unrestrained, and varied by casts of true humor, sometimes as broad and well enacted as the most exaggerated farce, and at others convolved in double meaning, fitted only for the ready perception of the most practised ear and polished taste. Thus distinguished, our young friend became a favorite with all classes.

It was about the time when this brilliant talent was already conspicuous—a talent that never after forsook him, even whilst age was wasting his tottering frame—it was at this period of youthful buoyancy, that a conference was held with the Indians of the Six Nations, at Fort Stanwix, in the Province of New York. Our lamented friend accompanied the delegation from Pennsylvania. During the negotiation of the treaty, he insinuated himself so much into the good graces of the Indian chiefs, and became so entirely acceptable to them, by his light-hearted jests and sportive behavior, that even those sedate red men relaxed their rigid carriage, and unbending for a moment the usual severity of their characters, proposed to adopt him into their tribes. The offer was accepted, and Mr. Peters was formally introduced to his new relations, receiving from them, in allusion to his amusing talkativeness, the appropriate name of *Tegohtias*, which means *parquet*.

He used to say that these Indians called the great William Penn *Onas*, the name of quill or pen, in their language; whereas, added he, on my adoption, they have been more complimentary, for they have given me the name of the bird and all his quills into the bargain.

Political difficulties with the mother country now compelled every man to choose his side. Mr. Peters, although rather intimately associated with the proprietary government, which was chiefly royal in its feelings, did not hesitate to separate himself from it, and join the cause of his native country. While many influential members of the Bar went over to the king, he stepped forward with zeal in defence of American rights.

Mr. Peters volunteered with his neighbors; and when they assembled for the purpose of organization, he was chosen their captain. His military career, however, was short.

At one time the army was without powder; at another lead; and always food or clothing was wanting. These were daily requi-

sitions, to which no other answer, oftentimes, could be given, than that the public stores were empty. To illustrate the naked state of our magazines, and mental anguish of our public functionaries at that critical time, I will give, very nearly in the words of Mr. Peters, a Revolutionary anecdote, which I thought sufficiently curious to note in writing, on the 9th of November, 1823,—the day it was told to me by him.

“I was Commissioner of War,” he said, “in 1779. General Washington wrote to me that all his powder was wet, and that he was entirely without lead or balls; so that should the enemy approach him, he must retreat. When I received this letter, I was going to a grand gala at the Spanish ambassador’s, who lived in Mr. Chew’s fine house, in South Third Street. The spacious gardens were superbly decorated with variegated lamps; the edifice itself was a blaze of light; the show was splendid; but my feelings were far from being in harmony with all this brilliancy. I met at this party, my friend, Robert Morris, who soon discovered the state of my mind. ‘You are not yourself to-night, Peters; what’s the matter?’ asked Morris. Notwithstanding my unlimited confidence in that great patriot, it was some time before I could prevail upon myself to disclose the cause of my depression; but at length I ventured to give him a hint of my inability to answer the pressing calls of the Commander-in-chief. ‘The army is without lead, and I know not where to get an ounce to supply it; the General must retreat for want of ammunition. ‘Well, let him retreat,’ replied the high and liberal-minded Morris; ‘but cheer up; there are in the Holkar privateer, just arrived, ninety tons of lead, one-half of which is mine, and at your service; the residue you can get by applying to Blair McClenachan and Holkar, both of whom are in the house with us.’

“I accepted the offer from Mr. Morris,” said Mr. Commissioner Peters, “with many thanks; and addressed myself immediately to the two gentlemen who owned the other half, for their consent to sell; but they had already trusted a large amount of clothing to the Continental Congress, and were unwilling to give that body any further credit. I informed Mr. Morris of their refusal. ‘Tell them,’ said he, ‘that I will pay them for their share.’ This settled the business; the lead was delivered. I set three or four hundred

men to work, who manufactured it into cartridge-bullets for Washington's army; to which it gave complete relief."

The sequel of this anecdote shows that the supply was entirely accidental. The Holkar privateer was at Martinico, preparing to return home, when her Captain, Matthew Lawler, had this lead offered to him for ballast. Uncertain, however, whether the market would not be overstocked by arrivals from Europe, he at first rejected it; but after some persuasion received it on board. What thanks do we not owe to such men!

On the 18th of June, 1778, Mr. Peters entered Philadelphia, at the very time the enemy was evacuating the place. He went under a strong escort sent with him by General Washington. His object was to secure clothing and stores, secreted by our friends, who had remained in the city; and to purchase everything that he could from the dealers. The British rear-guard was crossing the Delaware, when he arrived. He succeeded in fulfilling the wishes of the American General-in-chief. Arnold took command of the city a few days after, while Mr. Peters returned to York, in this State, where Congress then held its sessions.

"I left," says Mr. Peters in a letter to a friend, "fifty thousand dollars to the order of Arnold, for the payment of the clothing and stores. The traitor seized those articles, and never paid for them, but converted the greater part of the money to his own use: among others, to buy the country-seat of Mr. McPherson, on the Schuylkill. Colonel Pickering and I detected him in ordering stores and provisions out of the public magazines to fit out privateers of his own, and for his extravagant family establishment. An attempt to stop this robbery produced between me and Arnold an open quarrel. I did not conceal, but wrote to headquarters, my want of confidence in Arnold. When his traitorous conduct at West Point became public, neither Colonel Pickering nor myself were the least surprised at it. He was placed in that command at the solicitous request of some respectable New Yorkers, who knew only his military character, which I always deemed overrated far beyond its real merit."

Mr. Peters's exertions became peculiarly meritorious and useful at the time when General Washington suddenly changed his intended attack on New York to that of Yorktown, in Virginia.

Those were times, as Mr. Peters adds, "when *wants* were plenty, and *supplies* lamentably scarce."



In December, 1781, Mr. Peters resigned his post in the War Office, upon which occasion Congress "Resolved, That Mr. Peters's letter of resignation be entered on the journal, and that he be informed that Congress are sensible of his merit, and convinced of his attachment to the cause of his country, and return him their thanks for his long and faithful services in the War Department."

After Mr. Peters left the War Office, he was elected a member of Congress, and assisted in closing much of the business of the war, and of the welcome peace.

The war left us in an unsettled state, which the good sense of the people soon put in order, by the organization of a new government, under the present Constitution. The great Washington, our first President, in looking round him for suitable men to fill the posts in his gift, selected Mr. Peters for the Judgeship of the District Court of Pennsylvania. This he accepted, although he was desirous to take up his profession, and enjoy some respite from public labor. Since the peace, his fellow-citizens had sent him to the State Assembly, of one branch of which he was Speaker, at the very period, I think, when he was removed to the District Court. It was a new sacrifice to the public good; for I have heard my venerable friend say that it comported neither with his wish nor his interest to throw up his pursuits at the Bar for an office of such small emolument. He yielded, nevertheless, to the request of the President, and assumed the exercise of its duties, which he continued until his death; being a period of thirty-six years, during which time he was seldom detained from Court by sickness, and never from any other cause.

The President, who placed him on the Bench, knew him well, and took great delight in his society. When a morning of leisure permitted that great man to drive to Belmont, the birthplace and country residence of Judge Peters, it was his constant habit so to do. There, sequestered from the world, the torments and cares of business, Washington would enjoy a vivacious, recreative, and wholly unceremonious intercourse with the Judge; walking for hours, side by side, in the beautiful gardens of Belmont, beneath the dark shade of lofty hemlocks, placed there by his ancestors a century ago. In these romantic grounds stood a chestnut tree, reared from a Spanish nut, planted by the hand of Washington.



Large, healthy, and fruitful, it was cherished, at Belmont, as a precious evidence of the intimacy that subsisted between those distinguished men.

The duties of the District Judge, particularly when associated with the Judge of the Circuit Court, became sometimes extremely painful. Two insurrections (the only ones that have taken place since the adoption of the present Constitution) occurred in Mr. Peters's district. To aid in the suppression of the first, he followed the army as far as Pittsburg, the western limit of his jurisdiction ; and there, with his usual promptitude and prudence, very satisfactorily discharged his official duties. In a few years after, he was called again, to try for treason, another set of rebels from the northern part of his district. His associate, during part of the time, was the celebrated Samuel Chase, one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States. The trial of these deluded insurgents, and the execution of the two acts of Congress, so well known by the names of the Alien and Sedition Laws, gave great notoriety to the Circuit Court of this district. Its proceedings were narrowly watched by the political enemies of the Federal Government, until, at length, John Randolph, a member of the House of Representatives from Virginia, thought he saw cause of impeachment in the conduct of its Judges. Articles were agreed upon by the House of Representatives, and sent up to the Senate, against Samuel Chase ; and great pains were taken to include Mr. Peters. Indeed, the House inserted his name at one time ; but, on proper investigation, it was withdrawn, under a conviction that no cause of accusation existed ; on the contrary, when the examination took place, it was found that his judicial course had uniformly been marked by prudence, decorum, and moderation.

We find him promoting, and chiefly directing, one of the most beautiful and most useful improvements in the State. I allude to the permanent means of communication, created, in the year 1803, between the city and the country, by the erection of the great bridge over the Schuylkill, at the end of Market Street.

Judge Peters, the first President of the company at whose expense it was built, commenced his service in this work with a zeal and courage which alone could conquer the natural difficulty of the water piers ; and, it is proper to notice here, as illustrative of that

gentleman's sagacity and foresight, that to his perseverance (I had almost said *management*), do we owe the permanency of that bridge.

Before Mr. Peters became a Judge, indeed, soon after the war, in 1785, he visited England. His travels in that country, and the adjoining kingdoms under British rule, were extensive. He had in charge, on this occasion, a commission, somewhat of a public nature, and which introduced him to the acquaintance of the Primate and principal prelates of the English Church. Before the Revolution, the Protestant Episcopal Church in this country, of which Mr. Peters was a member, was governed by the Bishops of London; but, when our political connection was dissolved, no Protestant church here would consent to be regulated by a foreign diocesan. Mr. Peters, therefore, was commissioned to obtain the consent of the British prelates to ordain to the holy office of Bishop three priests of the American Episcopal Church, and thus give to it a canonical succession. An act of Parliament had already been obtained by the Bishop of London to enable him to dispense with such of the usual requisitions as were inconsistent with the engagements of certain citizens of the United States who had applied to him for holy orders; and, about the time the higher question of succession was agitated, the same subject was brought before the Danish Government, in consequence of a conversation between Mr. Adams, our then Minister to the same Court, to which a favorable answer was given; so that the Danish Church stood ready, in case of difficulty, to confer on our Church the necessary powers of Episcopal succession. But, it is believed, that this incident had no influence on the conduct of the British Government or Church, both of which are represented, by Mr. Peters, in a letter from England, dated March 4th, 1786, as favorably disposed; and subsequently confirmed by the courteous and friendly reception of the Right Reverend and venerable Bishop White and his colleagues, who found the Archbishops and all the Bishops, who were consulted on the business, acting with the utmost candor and liberality of sentiment; so that it is obvious that the English prelates were, from the first, ready and desirous to convey the succession to the American Church; and that the only condition they made was, that there should not be such a departure, either in discipline, worship,

or doctrine, as would destroy the identity of the two Churches in their spiritual character.

We now approach a period in the life of Judge Peters, which brought his fellow-citizens into close intimacy with him. It was a long period of widespread usefulness, in which he moved almost without a rival. As a practical farmer, Mr. Peters had, from time to time, communicated the results of the experiments made at Belmont, to such of his neighbors as chose to profit by them; but he had not written much, if anything, upon agriculture, before the year 1797. His first publication was then made, and contained a statement of facts and opinions in relation to the use of gypsum. This pamphlet circulated widely, and produced such a change in husbandry, by introducing the culture of clover and other artificial grasses, as gave a magical increase to the value of farms. Estates, which until then were unable to maintain stock, for want of winter fodder and summer pasture, were suddenly brought into culture, and made productive. Formerly, on a farm destitute of natural meadow, no stock could be supported; and even where natural meadow existed, the barn-yard was exhausted to keep up sufficient fertility (in the absence of irrigation), to feed a very few horses and black-cattle.

Such was the situation of our husbandry, for some years after the Revolution. It is proper to advert to it, that we may understand the full extent of our obligations to the Judge. In the year 1770, he was shown the effects of gypsum on clover, in a city lot, occupied by Mr. Jacob Barge, on the commons of Philadelphia.

The secret of its powerful agency came from Germany, where it was accidentally discovered. Mr. Peters obtained a small quantity, which he used successfully, and gradually promoted its consumption, until by his example, and his publications, the importation from Nova Scotia alone, into the single port of Philadelphia, increased to the enormous amount of fourteen thousand tons annually. This was before the discovery of that fossil in the United States.

In order to appreciate properly the industry of Judge Peters, in treating on husbandry and matters auxiliary to it, we must consult his voluminous communications, published in "The Memoirs of the Philadelphia Agricultural Society."

This distinguished citizen, always vigilant in promoting objects of public utility, founded the Agricultural Society, and presided over it from the day of its creation until his death.

Having endeavored to portray Judge Peters as a patriot, a legislator, a jurist, and a farmer, it remains to speak of him as a man in social life.

Unceremonious, communicative, friendly. "He talked with fluency mere pun," mere joke and frolic. He needed no artificial aid, where nature had been so liberal; and with his goblet of water, would, as he playfully said, "drink like a fish."

As a husband, a parent, a neighbor, a sincere Christian, there was, in reference to Judge Peters, but one voice. Every one united in praising his domestic and religious virtues.

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### THOMAS McKEAN PETTIT.

THOMAS McKEAN PETTIT was born, on the 26th of December, 1797, in Philadelphia. After the necessary preparation, he entered the University of Pennsylvania, and graduated there in 1815. He then entered the office of his kinsman, Joseph R. Ingersoll, as a student of law, and was admitted to practice as an attorney of the several Courts of Philadelphia at about the time of his majority. In 1820, he received the appointment of City Solicitor. Entertaining the political opinions of the Democratic school, he took an active part in maintaining their ascendancy, and soon after the election of Governor Schulze, and the appointment of Frederick Smith as Attorney-General of the State, he received the appointment of Deputy Attorney-General of the Court of Oyer and Terminer for this city and county, and continued in the faithful and satisfactory performance of the duties of the office for a number of years. His attention, however, was not entirely confined to his professional and official duties; but consistently with a proper performance of them, he found leisure to aid in promoting the success of his political party, by taking a decided and active part in the animated contests that then agitated the country. He was



a member of the Hickory Club, so well known at the time for its efficiency in promoting the election of General Jackson to the Presidency of the United States. He was also a member of that Committee of Correspondence which was so distinguished by its publications (the production of the pen of its chairman, Mr. Wm. J. Duane), discussing the questions then at issue between the rival parties, and his name was affixed to their able addresses.

In 1830, he was elected a member of the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, and took a prominent and effective part in its business and discussion; and, in the year following, he was elected a member of the Select Council of the city. In the ensuing year, 1832, he was called to a position of still higher importance. He was then appointed by Governor Wolf an Assistant Judge of the District Court for the City and County of Philadelphia, and served in that capacity until 1835, when the term for which the Court was constituted expired. Upon that event, however, and before the passage of the law by which the Court was continued for the further period of ten years, he was again appointed by Governor Wolf, but to the still higher office of President Judge of the Court, and faithfully and unintermittingly served during the whole of the term. In the course of this period he was nominated by his Democratic fellow-citizens as a candidate for Congress, though, as his party was in a minority in the district, without any expectation of an election; and, during the same term, he was appointed by President Van Buren one of the Board of Visitors to West Point. His efficiency and capacity here as elsewhere were soon discovered, and, with Ex-Governor Marcy, of New York, he prepared the report of the proceedings of the Board. In 1845, upon the expiration of the term for which the District Court had been last created, and upon the re-creation of the Court in that year for another term, Governor Shunk being then in the executive office, Judge Pettit was once more appointed to the Presidency of the Court. Highly estimating the honor so repeatedly conferred upon him, he nevertheless determined to decline it, and to resume the practice of his profession. He accordingly adopted that course, but not long to remain entirely in private practice, for soon after he received from President Polk the appointment of United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the duties of



which he continued to perform with his accustomed vigor and ability during the whole of Mr. Polk's term. The succeeding four years he passed in private life, but upon the commencement of the presidential term of Mr. Pierce, he had conferred upon him the appointment of Director of the Mint of the United States. He entered upon the duties of the office with his wonted energy, but continued in the discharge of them for a short time only, when his career of usefulness was closed by death, on the 30th May, 1853, in the fifty-sixth year of his age.

Besides the faithful performance of the numerous and various trusts above referred to, Judge Pettit mingled freely with his fellow-citizens, and served them with his counsels and influence in other capacities. He was a Vice-President of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, a member of the Board of Managers of the Athenæum, and a member of the Franklin and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. He also found time to devote to mere literary pursuits. Besides the preparation of numerous judicial decisions, he also assisted his friend, the Hon. Thomas Sergeant, of the Supreme Court of the State, to prepare for publication the "Common Law Reports of England." He also prepared and delivered several addresses. One in memory of his friend, the late Roberts Vaux, one before the Alumni of the University of Pennsylvania, and another before his Democratic fellow-citizens on the 4th of July, and acquitted himself in all in a manner to sustain his well-earned reputation.

In early life, he married Sarah Dale, a daughter of Commodore Richard Dale, of the United States Navy. He survived her a number of years, but now they lie side by side; one shaft records their names and marks the spot. Three children, one son and two daughters, survive them.

## PHILIP SYNG PHYSICK, M.D.

BY WILLIAM ELDER, M.D.

DR. PHYSICK is justly called "the Father of American Surgery." A biography, answering to his professional fame, would be a history of American surgery from the date of its earliest endeavor for scientific system to that of its final and complete success. The distinction of its founder is not due to the inferiority of his fellow-laborers; eminent men preceded him, indispensable men labored with him, and successors worthy of him are still his disciples and followers. His glory is that of the informing spirit and directing hand of the choicest agencies in a great achievement, the revolution in surgery, which he lived to see effected in the country of his birth.

If he had only given a form to his art, it would have passed away with the first changes which progress impressed upon it. He gave it the life which persists through all changes of form. If he had only contrasted a theory, it would have been lost in the first variance of theoretic speculation. But facts and things are not changeable, and his system is an array of verities, to be explained anew by every new philosophizer, but not to be changed by any explanation.

Dr. Physick was a discoverer, a thinker, a worker, but not an author. We learn, from his most intimate acquaintance, that he had "an invincible repugnance" to appearing before the public in that capacity. In fact, nine or ten essays, which might fill twenty pages octavo, more or less, are the whole amount of his publications, and the half of these are the simplest possible descriptions of operations and improved apparatus. He even forbade the posthumous publication of his manuscript lectures and letters. This was, no doubt, owing, in some degree, to his characteristic reserve. Still, as he was a student of books, a fine classical scholar, a zealous and laborious inquirer, and certainly a devotee to the interests of



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medical and surgical science, his "repugnance" to authorship will need some further explanation.

He was a man of facts and verities, extremely impatient of uncertainties, and ever careful to keep the things about which he was in doubt from mixing with those which he assuredly knew. He had just conquered his way through a chaos of futilities in the literature of his profession, and might well have "an invincible repugnance" to systems built mainly of hypotheses, and hurried, in semblances of truth, before the truths which should form them were known or demonstrated. He was an assiduous reader of books, though he complained greatly of the mass of useless verbiage they contained. His thirst for knowledge was too real to permit him to neglect any avenue to it, and he sifted the chaff thoroughly for the sake of whatever grains of truth it might hold. He went to books with the hunger of inquiry in him, demanding answers to questions which few but he could put to them, looking for the serviceable, the available only, and in no mood to be imposed upon by mere words. May we not conjecture, therefore, that he determined, so far as he was concerned, to put an end to making books of practice, until they could be made for use? This is not improbable; and we must respect the motive, even if we regret the strictness with which the resolution was adhered to.

A man of his cautious veracity, and conscientious sense of responsibility, could not write a "system" of surgery. His cases transcribed would have afforded a complete hand-book of the operations, and a comprehensive array of the principles of surgery; but it would have been hard to reduce it to a set of forms as a guide for practice; for, without originating everything in every new instance, he modified everything in every instance; and it would have been easier for him to have opened a new continent in the unknown realms of surgery, than to have given his authority to any definable mode of reducing a fractured bone, extirpating a tumor, or applying a bandage. He knew how to practise his art, and how to teach it. The first business of a teacher was, in his eyes, to make surgeons of his pupils; and this he did most effectually. He had learned his art in the right way, the only way that can have success; and they must learn it, with his help, in that

way, and no other. He would do nothing to relieve them from the duty and necessity of thinking and observing for themselves.

Physick's surgery, however, did not fail of receiving due record and publicity. Starting with the true principles of surgical pathology, of which science his preceptor, John Hunter, was the immortal founder, he built upon them a practice so original, and, at the same time, so unquestionably sound, that its merits could not remain unrecognized. The thousands of medical students who thronged the University of Pennsylvania during the period of his teaching, carried away with them all that was imperishable in his system; and, in their hands, it has attained those new developments into which a system of such inherent vigor could not fail to expand.

The historiographers of medicine, who look for the discoveries and improvements which he introduced into the practice of his art, enumerate such as these: A new method of extracting poisonous substances from the stomach, invented in an emergency, promptly successful, and always available. Dr. Physick was not, indeed, the *first* discoverer of this process; the idea had been suggested by Dr. Munro, of Edinburgh, some years prior to its introduction into practice by Dr. Physick; but, as the latter was wholly unaware of this fact, the merit of the discovery, on his part, is in no degree diminished; and it serves as a very apt illustration of his originality and fertility of invention. A new system of treatment for ulcers, which, in a few months, almost entirely cleared the hospital wards of the most hopeless cases, and gave to our surgeons their first acquaintance with the true method of dealing with diseases of this class; the employment of venesection in the reduction of dislocated limbs; the employment of the seton in cases of ununited fracture, thereby causing a deposition of callus, and a consequent consolidation of the broken bone,—one of the most brilliant inventions of modern surgery; blisters in the cure of gangrene; the treatment of diseased hip-joint (*morbus coxarius*) with splints, rest, low diet, and laxatives, persisted in with a confidence and patience which only the profoundest conviction could support, until finally rewarded with results as happy as professional heroism wins in any of its struggles. The doctrine of rest was advocated by Dr. Physick as applicable to most cases of diseased joints, and is considered one of his most important innovations upon received methods of practice.



In 1809, he effected the cure of artificial anus, a disease not only one of the most loathsome, but, at that time, one of the most unmanageable of all the ills of humanity. He was the first, it is believed, to declare the non-contagious character of yellow fever; and one of the first in the discovery that its causes were purely local. He formed his view of its nature from his own dissections of the subjects; and built a successful practice upon the knowledge of the various organic changes which he acquired by means of these investigations.

In the strictly mechanical departments of his art he has never had a superior. Invention never failed him in any exigency. He originated a number of inventions and appliances which are still in use; and he improved almost all that he employed of the inventions of others. The gorget; the double canula, for removing tonsils and hæmorrhoidal tumors; the needle, for taking up deep-seated arteries; the improvement of Desault's splint, for fractures of the thigh, and many other instruments and appliances, received the reforming touch of his artist hand. Even dentistry owes him the present of a forceps which still bears his name.

But we must turn now to the life of the man, that we may find how he grew into the greatness which he achieved.

Dr. Physick was born in Philadelphia on the 7th of July, 1768.

His father was a man of vigorous intellect, strict integrity, and enlarged views. He held the office of Keeper of the Great Seal of Pennsylvania, by appointment of the King, and after the Revolution took charge of the estates of the Penn family, and acted as their agent. His fortune, which was considerable for that time, enabled him to afford his son the best advantages of education. Dr. Physick's mother was of that character, in all the qualities of womanhood, which fitted her to be the mother of such a son, and to give him the best qualities of his own. The care and culture which his parents bestowed upon him looked steadily towards his future distinction, and as much as anything in the circumstances of a life can do, secured it by wisely providing for it. At eleven years of age, young Physick was placed in the Friends' Academy, under the care of Robert Proud. His habits were studious, punctual, and in all things exemplary. He made great proficiency here, and in due time passed into the collegiate department of the Penn-

sylvania University. In May, 1785, he took the degree of Bachelor of Arts in this institution. A month after leaving college, and yet under seventeen years of age, he commenced the study of medicine under Dr. Adam Kuhn, a pupil of the renowned Linnæus, and at that time the Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania. During his medical pupilage under Dr. Kuhn he attended the lectures of the University, but did not graduate in medicine in the institution. In November, 1788, after three and a half years' study of the profession, he went with his father to London, and immediately became the private pupil of the great John Hunter. Here he had access to the lectures of Clarke, Osborne, Baillie, Home, and Cruikshanks. Through the year 1789, he prosecuted his studies with loyal industry under the special superintendence of Mr. Hunter, and so advanced himself in his preceptor's regard, that he procured our young American's election to the post of house surgeon in St. George's Hospital, on the 1st of January, 1790. This was the first and the most hardly earned honor of his life. He occupied this post, and cultivated its opportunities for surgical study and practice, in the year for which he was elected, to such effect that the officers of the institution dismissed him with the handsomest testimonials of his conduct and abilities, and he received besides the diploma of the Royal College of Surgeons. These were not formal compliments, but the honest earnings of the candidate, now in a field of exertion which gave no favors, and amid a rivalry which allowed no commonplace man to obtain such pre-eminence. Mr. Hunter, at the close of his service in the Hospital, invited him to become an inmate of his house, to assist him in his professional business, and would have persuaded him to establish himself permanently in London, in the practice of surgery. From January till May, Physick remained with Hunter, assisting in his private practice, and especially in the physiological researches which he was at that time conducting, of which latter service Mr. Hunter thus speaks in his immortal treatise on "The Blood, Inflammation, and Gun-shot Wounds:" "Many of these experiments were repeated, by my desire, by Dr. Physick, now of Philadelphia, when he acted as house-surgeon of St. George's Hospital, whose accuracy I could depend upon."

In May, 1791, he left London for Edinburgh, in pursuance of his purpose to graduate in medicine in the University of that city. He attended the lectures of this institution with his usual diligence, during the year required by its rules from students of his grade, and took his degree of M.D. in May, 1792. His thesis was upon "Apoplexy," written in Latin, as the University required, and written by himself, too, for his scholarship was not a pretence; he learned everything well that he learned at all.

After this long course of faithful collegiate and professional study, he returned to Philadelphia, and commenced the practice of medicine in September, 1792. He was now twenty-four years of age, and his period of probation with the public was fairly introduced. How long he must have waited and labored for that position he was born to fill, and fitted to illustrate, may have been a matter of some solicitude and uncertainty, but the usual suspense was suddenly terminated by the appearance of the yellow fever of 1793, and the man and the occasion met. The Board of Health established the Yellow Fever Hospital at Bush Hill in August. Dr. Physick offered his services, and was elected its physician. The high medical qualifications, coupled with the zeal, energy, and total disregard of personal danger which he displayed in this responsible and exposed position, obtained for him no little notoriety, and no doubt led to his appointment, in 1794, as one of the Surgeons of the Pennsylvania Hospital, and later in the same year, as Physician to the Almshouse Infirmary. His connection with the Hospital not only afforded him the amplest opportunities of perfecting himself in the operative department of his profession, but had, no doubt, a considerable influence in promoting the extension of his business, and the establishment of his reputation. From this time his practice increased rapidly, and his prospects of success and enduring fame became more and more secure.

In the year 1798, the yellow fever having again broken out in our city, Dr. Physick accepted, for the second time, the post of Resident Physician at the Bush Hill Hospital. He had only recently recovered from his second attack of the fearful malady to which he thus exposed himself; an attack during which his life had been almost despaired of. This act will help us to appreciate the intrepidity which he always displayed as a physician. His services

were so highly valued by the managers, that upon his leaving the institution they presented him with some valuable silver plate, in acknowledgment of "their respectful approbation of his voluntary and inestimable services."

But there is still another department of work which his fortune provided for him. Until the year 1805, there was no separate chair of Surgery in the Faculty of the University. It was taught, so far as it was, or could be taught, by the incumbent of the chair of Anatomy. Physick's distinction in surgical art, displayed in his hospital practice during the first five years of his service there, induced the class in attendance upon the University course, at the session of 1800-1, to request him to lecture to them on surgery. He consented, after a struggle with the doubts and apprehensions which any man capable of such an undertaking must feel, and then resolutely began his career as a public teacher. In 1805, the want of a surgical professorship in the University, now made imperative, and the supply as obvious and as well demonstrated, the trustees of the institution created the chair, and elected Dr. Physick to fill it. He was now formally associated with Barton, Wistar, Rush, and at a later period, with Chapman, Dewees, and Coxe. They in their several degrees of efficiency made Philadelphia the American emporium of medical education. Soon after Physick's association with the Faculty, the school took its greatest rapidity of growth, and it was at the time that he was in the meridian of his fame, that the University was at the highest point of its reputation.

His manner as a lecturer is described as grave, dignified, and impressive; his style clear, simple, and chaste; his language exact, perspicuous, and abstemiously pertinent. Every lecture was carefully prepared and fully written out. His verbal memory was a good one; but he held that accuracy and truthfulness required the most scrupulous securities; and avoided, upon principle, extemporaneous teaching upon matters of vital importance. He was a man, moreover, of cautious veracity; and, consequently, of the briefest utterances.

As a teacher of surgery, he was, both in matter and method, severely practical. He did not range over the whole field of the science; but, confining himself rigidly within the limits of his own



experience, he taught clearly all that he assuredly knew and understood. He accepted cordially whatever of fact and principle his fellow-laborers contributed, after he had himself verified it, giving to all his teachings the warranty of his own authority, under the strongest feeling of personal responsibility. His account of the structures with which he was concerned was that which he knew by the aid of his dissecting-knife, of diseases by actual observation, and of their treatment by an experience, embracing cases which, except in books, few surgeons had at that time encountered.

The period of Dr. Physick's highest fame as a teacher was also that of his largest practice as a physician. The amount of work which he performed at this time is said to have been almost incredible. An immense practice, in which, at one time, a capital operation occurred almost daily; consultations with his professional brethren in all great emergencies; applications for advice from all quarters of the continent and from the adjacent islands; a very extensive correspondence, and attendance upon the various public institutions of which he was the chief physician and surgeon, constitute an enormous burden of work for one man's task; yet, it may be said of him, as safely as of any man, that he never neglected a duty, evaded a risk, or failed in an engagement. This is the miracle power that there is in genius, integrity, and industry. He found time for all this world of work, by rising at four in the morning, making his own fire (for he would not disturb a servant at that hour), and then sitting down to the preparation of his lecture for the day. After that was well done, he dressed, breakfasted, and was ready, between eight and nine o'clock, with the whole day before him, to go through his laborious business.

In 1819, Dr. Physick was translated from the chair of Surgery to that of Anatomy, which then fell vacant by the death of his nephew, Dr. John Syng Dorsey. He performed the duties of this last professorship until 1831, when his failing health obliged him to relinquish the active duties of a public teacher. Upon his retirement, the authorities of the institution conferred upon him the well-earned honorary title of "Emeritus Professor of Surgery and Anatomy."

As an operator, he is described as possessing a correct, sharp, and discriminating eye; a hand delicate in touch, dexterous in move-



ment, and of unwavering firmness; and a perfect composure and self-possession, which rose in tone and deepened in steadiness with the complications of the case in hand. These could scarcely ever surprise him, for he had a forethought of all the contingencies of a great operation, and made thorough preparation for them. His dexterity in manipulation was a match for his skill in operating. He was not the man to neglect any faculty which could be made to serve in the duties which he undertook to perform. He took an earnest care of the minor agencies of his art, knowing how much of the most brilliant successes depends upon them. From any approach to rashness, as an operator, he was withheld by a well-principled repugnance to all adventurous or doubtful surgery. He was guarded against ostentatious or reckless enterprises, not only by his deep and conscientious regard for the safety of his patients, but by a constitutional sensibility, which made it terrible to him to inflict pain upon them; or, indeed, to witness it in any form. Through his whole life, he suffered so much anxiety before entering upon a formidable operation, and so much nervous disturbance after it, that he could not be a wanton experimenter. Here we have a surgeon, daily cutting as near the life as boldness ever ventured, with a sensibility to the pains and risks of his operations that would have disqualified a man of less moral courage, self-control, and conscious ability, from ever touching a scalpel. This is heroism in its purest and best form.

Dr. Physick's self-control was as well evinced in another form. During most of the years of his great professional labor, he was a sick man as well as an exceedingly sensitive one. His constitutional vigor was first severely tried by an attack of yellow fever in 1793. In 1797, he again suffered from it. In 1813-14, he had an attack of typhus fever so severe that very little hope was entertained of his recovery for some time. His system never recovered from this and the preceding shocks which it had sustained, and from this time he suffered constantly from dyspepsia. To this was added nephritic calculi, which gave him hours of the extremest agony in its paroxysms; and he was, besides, subject to frequent and severe attacks of catarrh. Yet he did his work through all this disorder of his health, with that force of will and

strength of principle, which in a generously great nature overrules all physical infirmities.

Dr. Physick's personal appearance was commanding in the extreme, and inspired involuntary respect and reverence in all who beheld him. He was of medium height, with a graceful and well-formed figure. His head and face were excellently well shaped; his eye hazel, bright, and penetrating, heightened in its effect perhaps by the habitual pensiveness and statue-like composure of his countenance. His manners were reserved and dignified, but exceedingly polished and courteous. His habitual gravity was well relieved by a peculiar kindness, which was winning in the extreme. His manner to his patients at the same time inspired in them the fullest confidence in his skill, and assured them of the sympathy for their sufferings which they craved. In consultations with his professional brethren, he was open, generous, and direct, and in all his intercourse with them, scrupulously just and kindly considerate. His affections were strong and enduring, and his family relations full of beauty and tenderness. For his nephew, Dr. Dorsey, he had an almost paternal affection. The premature death, in 1819, of this dearly loved kinsman, friend, and associate, added a settled sadness to the sufferings of his whole after life.

Dr. Physick was married, in the year 1800, to Miss Elizabeth Emlen, a highly attractive and gifted lady, and a daughter of one of the most distinguished ministers of the Society of Friends. By this marriage he had four children, two sons and two daughters.

To his son-in-law, Dr. J. Randolph, a distinguished operator and lecturer on surgery, we are indebted for the facts and dates which we have used in this narrative, as we find them in his *Memoir of the Life and Character of Dr. Physick*, read before the Philadelphia Medical Society, in February, 1839.

Dr. Randolph's nearness of relationship, and intimacy of intercourse with Dr. Physick through the last years of his life, qualified him to report the history of his declining years more exactly and reliably than it could have been otherwise secured. We learn from this source, that at the time of Dr. Physick's retirement from the University (1831), his ill health almost unfitted him for attention to his private practice. But in October of that year he was called to the performance of an operation which proved to be one of the

most difficult, and resulted in one of the most brilliant successes of his life. The subject was the late Chief Justice Marshall, lithotomy the operation, and the result the removal of over one thousand calculi, and a prompt and perfect cure. Judge Marshall was at the time seventy-six, and the operator sixty-three years of age. Thus the two chiefs of their respective professions met at the close of that age of great men. As Dr. Randolph was an assistant and eye-witness through all the stages of this case, his account of it, in his own language, may be acceptable to our readers.

“In October, 1831, Dr. Physick performed the operation of lithotomy on Chief Justice Marshall. This case was attended with singular interest, in consequence of the exalted position of the patient, his advanced age, and the circumstance of their being upward of one thousand calculi taken from his bladder. It is well known that for several years previous to this period, Dr. Physick had declined performing extensive surgical operations. He felt somewhat reluctant to operate on Chief Justice Marshall, and offered to place the case in my hands. Taking all the circumstances into consideration, and knowing well that this would be the last time that he would ever perform a similar operation, I felt desirous that he should finish with so distinguished an individual, and accordingly urged him to do it himself. Upon the day appointed, the Doctor performed the operation with his usual skill and dexterity. I do not think I ever saw him display greater neatness than on that occasion. The result of the operation was complete success.

“It will be readily admitted that in consequence of Judge Marshall’s very advanced age, the hazard attending the operation, however skilfully performed, was considerably increased. I consider it but an act of justice due to the memory of that great and good man, to state that in my opinion his recovery was in a great degree owing to his extraordinary self-possession, and to the calm and philosophical views which he took of his case, and the various circumstances attending it.

“It fell to my lot to make the necessary preparations. In the discharge of this duty, I visited him on the morning of the day fixed for the operation, two hours previously to that at which it was to be performed. Upon entering his room, I found him engaged

in eating his breakfast. He received me with a pleasant smile upon his countenance, and said, 'Well, Doctor, you find me taking breakfast, and I assure you I have had a good one. I thought it very probable that this might be my last chance, and therefore was determined to enjoy it, and eat heartily.' I expressed the great pleasure which I felt at seeing him so cheerful, and said I hoped all would soon be happily over. He replied to this that he did not feel the least anxiety or uneasiness respecting the operation or its result. He said that he had not the slightest desire to live laboring under the sufferings to which he was then subjected; that he was perfectly ready to take all the chances of an operation, and he knew there were many against him; and that if he could be relieved by it, he was willing to live out his appointed time, but if not, would rather die than hold existence accompanied with the pain and misery which he then endured.

"After he had finished his breakfast, I administered to him some medicine; he then inquired at what hour the operation would be performed. I mentioned the hour of eleven. He said 'Very well; do you wish me now for any other purpose; or may I lie down and go to sleep.' I was a good deal surprised at this question; but told him that if he could sleep, it would be very desirable. He immediately placed himself upon the bed, and fell into a profound sleep, and continued so until I was obliged to rouse him, in order to undergo the operation.

"He exhibited the same fortitude, scarcely uttering a murmur, throughout the whole operation; which, from the peculiar nature of his complaint, was necessarily tedious."

Dr. Physick's last operation, like the first recorded in his private journal, was upon the eye. Peculiar circumstances, bringing with them what he regarded as an imperative obligation, led him to undertake this most delicate, and in the operator's state of health, almost impracticable operation. He once more nerved himself to duty, and performed it with a hand steadied, and a mind composed to the required hardihood, by that same despotic will which had carried him through the ten thousand trials and perils of his earlier life. From this memorable day, the 13th of August, 1837, the symptoms and sufferings of his disease increased rapidly. Dropsy of the chest set in, oppressing his breathing to an extent



that prevented him from lying down for days and nights together. The effusion extending itself on the system, the lower extremities, from continual standing, became enormously swollen, and finally gangrenous; the scene closing gently upon this drama of toil, triumph, and suffering, on the 15th of December, 1837, in his seventieth year.

To a man of such moral excellence, and such habitual devotion to all the duties of life, religion could not be a matter of indifference. We shall not attempt to conceal that at one time he was beset with doubts which were most distressing to a man who longed for settled convictions in religion. These were in no degree the outcome of arrogance of intellect, or of the wish to reject the received doctrines of Christianity.

"I am very certain," says the best informed of his biographers, "that a more pure and ardent seeker after Divine truth, I never knew." In his latter years, he was intensely occupied with religious investigations; employing all the means, and accepting all the helps, humble as they might be, that could serve for guidance and assurance. For very many years—years of comparative health and strength, no less than those of sickness—he had been in the habit of reading a portion of the New Testament daily; and when at last his infirmities made him incapable of so doing, his children were constantly employed in reading to him the Scriptures, and other books of a religious character. In these latter days, the doubts which had once harassed his mind, seemed to be laid to rest. "I feel assured," says the same authority, "that the hopes and promises of the Christian religion were the greatest sources of consolation in him, in the closing hours of his life, and smoothed his passage to the tomb."

With a brief statement of the honors awarded to him by his contemporaries, and his peers in science and public service, we close our sketch of his life and character.

The first, and far from the least distinction, was the meed of his youthful work, the testimony of John Hunter's estimation. In 1791, he received the present of a valuable service of plate from the Managers of the Bush Hill Hospital, with the flattering acknowledgment of his services already mentioned. In 1801, he received the appointment of Surgeon Extraordinary to the Alms-







house Infirmary. In 1802, he was made a member of the American Philosophical Society. In 1805, he was elected to the Professorship of Surgery in the University of Pennsylvania. In 1819, he was appointed Professor of Anatomy in the same institution. In 1822, he was elected President of the Phrenological Society of Philadelphia. In 1824, President of the Philadelphia Medical Society. In 1825, he was made a member of the "Academy of Medicine" of France, probably the first American who received that honor. In 1831, the University conferred upon him the highest honor in its power, by electing him unanimously "Emeritus Professor of Anatomy and Surgery." In 1836, he was elected an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London, an acknowledgment of his well-earned reputation, which gave him the highest pleasure.

When his death was announced, the medical, and other learned societies of the nation, rendered their tributes of respect for his services and his worth in the most earnest and expressive forms. His remains rest in his native city, the theatre of his life's achievements; and his fame is in the keeping of his countrymen and the cultivators of medicine throughout the world.

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## REV. JOSEPH PILMORE, D.D.

DR. PILMORE was, for many years, rector of St. Paul's Church, Philadelphia; and the crowded congregations which attended his ministry, during the greater part of his time, attested his popularity and usefulness. He was originally attached to the Society of Methodists; and the narrative of his labors in South Wales (England), performed partly in company with the Rev. John Wesley, in the years 1767 and 1768, are very interesting, containing an account of the religious state of that country, with notices of the ancient castles and natural curiosities; the whole illustrative of the early history of Methodism.

When Dr. Pilmore arrived in America he belonged to the Methodist Church, and, for some time afterwards, preached in the

open fields, as he had done in England. At length he joined the Protestant Episcopal Church, and was duly ordained one of its ministers, and a truly zealous one he was. His style of oratory was bold and declamatory. In social life he was kind and engaging, and his efforts to do good unceasing. He became in early life attached to the service of his Maker and Creator.

Methodism was first introduced into Philadelphia in the year 1769 by the Rev. Dr. Joseph Pilmore, of St. Paul's Church; he having then, as a young man, arrived here on a mission from the Rev. Mr. John Wesley. He preached from the steps of the State-House, in Chestnut Street, and from stands put up in the race-fields, being a true field preacher, and carrying his whole library and wardrobe in his saddle-bags. His popularity as a preacher soon led to his call to St. Paul's. Among the novelties of his day, he was occasionally aided in preaching by Captain Webb, the British Barrack-Master at Albany, who, being a Boanerges in declamation, and a one-eyed officer, in military costume, caused attraction enough to bring many to hear from mere curiosity, who soon became proselytes to Methodism.

The first regular meetings of this Society were held in a pot-house in Loxley's Court, a passage running from Arch to Cherry Streets, near Fourth Street. The first church owned by the Methodists, was the present St. George's, in Fourth near New Street. It was an unfinished building, which they bought of the Germans; having no floor laid when the British possessed the city, they took it to the use of their cavalry as a riding-school.

Dr. Pilmore, we believe, was twice married, but had only one child, a daughter, who died in early life.

The following tribute of gratitude to his memory, was delivered by a member, at the anniversary dinner of "The Society of the Sons of St. George," at Head's Mansion House Hotel, on the 24th April, 1826:—

"Mr. President: Having gone through your customary routine of toasts, on this our festive anniversary, I beg leave to solicit for a few moments, the attention of the Society, to an event which has occurred since our last annual meeting in this place; I mean the death of our late venerable and highly respected brother, the Rev. Dr. Joseph Pilmore, late rector of St. Paul's Church in this city, whose

professional merit as a zealous orthodox and pious divine, popular applause, and the testimony of crowded audiences, for many years before his death, loudly proclaimed.

“He was born in Yorkshire, on the 31st October, 1739, and emigrated to this country in the character of a Methodist itinerant preacher, in the year 1769. Being a man of vigorous and active intellect, he, after much serious investigation, became acquainted with, and of course attached to, the doctrines and discipline of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and obtained admission into it, first as a deacon, and afterwards as a priest, by the ordination of Bishop Seabury; as such he became one of her most zealous advocates, and continued so to the day of his death, which happened on the 24th July, 1825, in the eighty-sixth year of his age. He was elected an honorary member of this Society on the 23d April, 1791. Being a native of England, he uniformly maintained and cherished an ardent attachment to her government, laws, and established religion; and was ever ready to assist his countrymen, when involved in difficulties, both with his counsel and his purse; and with that nobleness of mind, that independence of character, and that integrity of principle, which characterize the true-born Englishman, he admired, approved, and scrupulously conformed to the civil and ecclesiastical establishments of this country; in which, under different locations, he so many years resided as a useful and exemplary citizen.

“Though married, yet having no children, his domestic expenses were small, and he was thereby, through the exercise of temperance and frugality, ‘that he might have to give to him who needed,’ enabled to accumulate a very handsome independence, with a considerable portion of which he has generously endowed our charitable institution.

“It is well known that no inconsiderable portion of the population of this city arises from emigrants from England, of the middle and lower classes of society, who flatter themselves with the hope of improving their circumstances in a new country. The consequent wide range of embarrassment and distress which many of them experience, from being ‘unknowing and unknown’ in a strange land, naturally occasions the number of applicants to our Society to be annually multiplied. When these things are con-



sidered, they ought forcibly to operate upon the sensibility, the patriotism, and the liberality of every Englishman; and that they did so upon the heart of our departed brother, he evinced by the largeness of his bequest to us, in a sum estimated to be above seven thousand dollars.

“ May his philanthropy, his generosity, and his patriotism prove influential upon those of his countrymen who are residents among us, and particularly upon the members of our highly useful and benevolent institution, ‘The Society of the Sons of St. George, established at Philadelphia, for the advice and assistance of Englishmen in distress.’ ”

When so active, useful, and truly meritorious a character is called to his great account, his virtues and benevolent actions should not only be remembered but imitated by his survivors.

#### EXTRACT FROM HIS WILL.

“ *Item.*—I give and bequeath fifty dollars to Frederick Scuder, my man-servant. Moreover, I will and ordain that all my residuary estate, after paying all my debts, legacies, &c., shall be equally divided into two parts, one-half towards the support of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the State of Pennsylvania, to be paid to the Treasurer, for the time being, of the Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church. The other half I give and bequeath to ‘The Society of the Sons of St. George, established in Philadelphia, for the advice and assistance of Englishmen in distress,’ to be paid to their Treasurer for the time being, and applied for the carrying on of the charitable designs of that institution, according to the terms and principles of their charter. Furthermore, I will and ordain that, for the payment of all the legacies mentioned above, all my property of every kind shall be sold as soon as may be after my death, &c. &c.; and I appoint Richard North and John Matthews, Esqrs., of the city of Philadelphia, executors of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this twenty-second day of May, A.D. 1816.

“ [Seal.]

Signed, JOSEPH PILMORE, D.D.”





## ZACHARIAH POULSON.

ZACHARIAH POULSON was born in Philadelphia, on the 5th of September, 1761. He departed this life, at his residence, No. 106 Chestnut Street, July 31st, 1844; and his remains were buried in the family cemetery at Germantown, on the following Saturday.

Zachariah Poulson was the editor, publisher, and proprietor of "Poulson's American Daily Advertiser" for nearly forty years; the duties of which he relinquished, and that newspaper ceased to be, after the 28th of December, 1839. It was the first newspaper published *daily* in the United States.

The father of Mr. Poulson was born in Copenhagen, Denmark, on the 16th of June, 1737. He was the only son of Nicholas Poulson; together they embarked at the city named, and arrived in Philadelphia in the year 1749. Nicholas Poulson resided in Germantown some years before his death, at which town, now a part of our city, his son Zachariah, the elder, learned the art of printing, in the office of Christopher Sower, the second, a learned and accomplished printer of celebrity, who, like his great prototype, Faust, manufactured his own types, printing-ink, &c.

Sower's father here established a printing-office in the year 1735, and printed in the year 1743 the first edition of the Holy Bible in this country; it was in the German language. Christopher Sower, the second, who succeeded his father in the year 1744, in the year 1762, printed a second edition of the Bible, and a third edition in 1776. His pupil, Zachariah Poulson, the elder, in after life was an eminent and highly esteemed member of the Moravian Church. He died on the 14th of January, 1804, and his earthly remains were deposited in the burial-place of that church near Franklin Square, in this city.

Mr. Poulson, the subject of this article, was eminent in his art as a printer; which he acquired in the then extensive printing-office of Joseph Cruikshank, Market Street.

He was for many years successively elected their printer by the Senate of Pennsylvania; he printed also, in folio, the "Minutes of

the Convention," which was appointed to revise and amend the Constitution of the State in the year 1789. Amongst a large number of valuable works, he printed and published "Proud's History of Pennsylvania," in 1797-8. "Poulson's Town and Country Almanac" he put forth annually from the year 1789 to 1801 inclusive, of which it may be truly said, there were few more popular works in our city, or one more sought after both in "town and country." The occasional addresses and remarks of the editor of this work exhibit a mind most happily fraught with piety and benevolence, as well as by a highly cultivated understanding. "The American Tutor's Assistant," of which he printed and published numerous editions, was also *the* book of its class for the times, and accordingly was popular and useful. Mr. Poulson printed the curious mystical works of William Gerar de Bram, in one octavo volume, for the author; and from time to time the "Journals of the General Conventions of Delegates from the Abolition Societies of the United States," from 1794 to 1801 inclusive. A complete catalogue of Mr. Poulson's labors would admirably illustrate the history of printing and of the times in Philadelphia.

On the 1st day of October, 1800, Mr. Poulson commenced the arduous duties incident to the conduct of a daily newspaper, having purchased the "good-will," printing-office, and other materials, of "Claypoole's American Daily Advertiser," from David C. Claypoole, for the sum of ten thousand dollars. Mr. Poulson had projected a design for a new daily paper, to be called "The Observer," but subsequently he was induced to abandon that experiment, and by the purchase of an old and well-established journal, at once possess himself of all the inherent advantages and responsibilities of such an enterprise.

In the course of a long life, Mr. Poulson was connected with many of the principal benevolent and literary institutions of this city, and contributed to their maintenance and support by his exertions, which were always untiring in doing good. Indeed, it may be said of him, that his whole career was one of public advantage. He was one of the founders of, and at the time of his decease, President of the "Philadelphia Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons;" for a time one of the managers of the "Pennsylvania Hospital;" and for a period of nearly fifty-nine years, con-



nected with the "Library Company of Philadelphia," twenty-one years as Librarian; six years as Treasurer; and thirty-two years as a Director of that institution. His portrait now occupies a space on the walls of the hall of the Library in Fifth Street; it was painted by Sully, at the instance of the Company. In writing on the subject of this painting, a contemporary editor remarks that, "Mr. Poulson well deserves this tribute of regard. For many years he has been a faithful and efficient officer of the Library Company, and has always taken a lively interest in promoting the welfare of that excellent institution. But more than this: he has passed through a life protracted to an unusual length, entirely free from all censure and reproach. Upon his character the slightest stain has never rested; and though for many years the editor and proprietor of a widely circulated journal, and that during the most exciting periods, he never made an enemy or lost a friend. Of the strictest and most exemplary integrity and untiring industry, his business relations were always prosperous; in his private deportment, his kindness of spirit, his frank-hearted manner, and his constant readiness to serve the interests of all deserving objects, have won and secured the love of all who knew him."

"Our early life was passed under Mr. Poulson's roof; and, since we have reached manhood, he has frequently aided us with his counsels; and we can say, with all truth and sincerity, that there does not exist a man to whom we render more love and veneration than we do to him."

Few men have ever lived in our community who so entirely possessed, and deservedly, yet unostentatiously, acquired the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens, as did Zachariah Poulson.

John Binns, in his "Recollections of his own Life," page 303, relates the following characteristic feature of the neighborly conduct of Zachariah Poulson. Mr. Binns had lost a son, Pemberton, drowned in the Delaware, whose body was not recovered until one hundred and six days afterwards, and it was about to be interred. "There was an immense crowd at the funeral. It seemed as though everybody sympathized and mourned. My neighbor, the Editor of 'The Daily Advertiser,' with whom I had never had any personal intercourse, and of whom I had too often spoken slightly in my paper, when the undertaker was about to form the crowd

who were to walk in the procession, Mr. Poulson drew near to me, and, in the kindest manner, said: 'Will my neighbor allow me to take his arm and walk with him on this melancholy occasion?' I did not speak, I could not say a word; I was overcome by his attention and his kindness. I drew close to him and bent my arm; he passed his arm through mine, and thus we walked to and from the burying-ground. We did not interchange a word; but, while he lived, our intercourse was of the most friendly nature."

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### COLONEL JOHN HARE POWEL.

JOHN POWEL HARE was born at Philadelphia, in April, 1786. He was the fifth son and sixth child of Robert Hare and his wife, Margaret, daughter of Charles Willing. His father was an Englishman, of good family, highly educated, and of refined and cultivated tastes, who came to America in 1773. He was a member of the Convention which formed the first Constitution of Pennsylvania, and afterwards became Speaker of the Senate of the State.

He imparted to his son the rudiments of a good classical education, which was completed at Philadelphia. Besides this, he planted in his heart the stern sense of individual responsibility, love of truth, and high principle, which marked his whole intercourse with the world. From college he entered the counting-house of his relatives, Messrs. Willings & Francis, where he learned so successfully the principles of mercantile affairs that he made a voyage to Calcutta; returning, before he reached the age of twenty-one, with twenty thousand dollars, as his own share of the profits.

During the tedium of the passages, he devoted his leisure to the cultivation of his literary tastes, and to the improvement of his style of composition; for which purpose he abridged Robertson's "History of Charles V," in a thousand manuscript pages.

When he reached his majority, by the desire of his maternal aunt, Mrs. Elizabeth Powel, who had been many years before bereft of her children, and who had adopted him, he procured an



act of the legislature, which changed his name to John Hare Powel.

Soon afterwards, he went to Europe for improvement and pleasure. In England he found his paternal relatives ready to welcome him; and here his tastes were gratified, and his associations most agreeable. He was then remarkable for a fine personal appearance, as shown by one of Sir Thomas Lawrence's best pictures.

He soon became Secretary of the United States Legation at London, under the Hon. William Pinckney, who was Minister in England. This appointment conferred great advantages for acquiring a knowledge of the train of events at that critical and momentous period of history. Devoting himself to the study of the government, the resources, and the policy of England, we find him at that early day diligently seeking knowledge from Lord Brougham, who was already distinguished by his information upon these topics. His diplomatic position gave him access to the men and the motives of the time. While employed with these pursuits, he formed his opinions upon the general policy of free trade; and he became convinced of our own national danger, arising from the grasping and aggressive spirit of the English Government. In speaking of it, he said it was marked by the same virtues and vices which distinguished Rome. In his letters from England he wrote that, in the primer of his first-born son, he should inscribe, "Love Englishmen, but distrust Great Britain." In the midst of the brilliant associations of fashion, and the warm friendship of private life, this sentiment continued unchanged; and it was ever impressed by him upon the hearts of his children, both at home and abroad, where, subsequently, the associations of his early life procured many friends for them. These ties of friendship were a beautiful proof of his just estimation of English hearts; but they never, at any moment of his life, blinded his judgment of the English national character, or modified his convictions of the nature of the policy his own country should adopt in her relations with Great Britain.

Even in the midst of the excitement of recent discussions upon the foreign policy of the United States, he often adverted to his early impressions of the character, force, and tendencies of some of the statesmen of England, especially of Lord Palmerston; and

he dreaded the results which must in consequence accrue to our country, unless the movements of that bold, resolute, and able minister, were closely watched and energetically met.

Few Americans ever enjoyed better opportunities for knowing some of the great men of England; and although he was highly impressed with the characteristic advantages of education and position which illustrated their lives, his associations only served to render him more thoroughly a republican. In his intercourse with them he frankly avowed his conviction of the danger of opening the ballot-box in England, before the masses should be redeemed from their ignorance; but at the same time he ridiculed the idea that the intelligent freemen of his own country could feel the least temptation to resort to a system, from which their ancestors had so gloriously risen. He always asserted that influence and standing should be won and maintained by individual merit; and he defended the opinion, by the history of the rise and power of many of the leading spirits of England, despite the jealousy of hereditary rank.

A trait of the Prince Regent, which he related, proves that he did not yield his republican pride amid the influences of foreign life. During the war with France, when Mr. Powel was about to bear important despatches from London to the American minister at Paris, the Prince desired to avail himself of the rare opportunity to procure from the French capital the portrait of a relative, and for the purpose of giving the necessary information and authority, he fixed a time, desiring Mr. Powel to call upon him. At the appointed hour he called, but was requested to return the next day, as business of state occupied the Prince. He returned as he had been requested, and he received another message from the Prince, desiring him to come the following day; but as no business of state or other reason was given for this request, he did not come again.

On his return from France, the Prince did not recognize him. Lady H—e observed it, and asked, "What have you done? He does not speak to you. Your name was omitted from the list at the palace, and when Lord C. asked what it meant, the Prince replied, 'Pinckney has gone home, we must suppose Powel has gone too.'" He then related the circumstance to Lady H—e, adding, the Prince *had forgotten he was not a subject*. She replied, "He will never forgive you." Mr. Powel rejoined, "And I could



not forgive myself, if I had done otherwise." The next time the Prince met him was some months afterwards; at first he was cold; Mr. Powel was equally cool. Before long, the Prince, finding himself accidentally face to face, laughed, and addressed him with his usual ease and grace, having, as it appeared, at last seen the occurrence in its true light. After this he continued to meet Mr. Powel graciously.

He passed three years in England, visiting France occasionally. Napoleon was then at the height of his power and pinnacle of his glory. The scene was magnificent to the eye. But Mr. Powel found his native love of free institutions and his horror of despotism not a little augmented by the palpable results of military sway and absolute power, then so apparent in the French capital and throughout the provinces.

He returned home in December, 1811, having while in England resolved to enter the army of the United States. He applied to the Committee of Defence of Philadelphia for a Major's command of horse; but he found there was no vacancy. He then joined the Volunteers, and served as Brigade-Major, under his old friend, General Thomas Cadwalader, at Camp Dupont. Here he was distinguished for his energy, his vigilance, and decision, and as a most strict disciplinarian. Still desiring to enter the regular service, and the quota of Pennsylvania continuing full, he was adopted by the Senator from Louisiana; and thus, nearly at the close of the war, he received a commission as Inspector-General, with the full rank of Colonel in the regular army of the United States. He served upon the staff of General Scott until the peace, when, not liking the inactivity, he left the army. Soon afterwards, while ardently attached to military life, he was about to enter the Colombian service, where he was offered a Brigadier-General's commission under his gallant friend, General Devereux. The tears of his mother and the entreaties of his family induced him, with great reluctance, to give up this cherished prospect for active military life.

His attention was soon turned to agriculture, which he embraced for a pursuit with all the zeal of a most ardent nature. At this time he married Miss De Veaux. She was a daughter of Colonel Andrew De Veaux, of a Huguenot family of South Carolina, who

passed the last years of his life upon the shores of the Hudson. Her mother was one of the "old Knickerbocker Verplanks."

In the effort to develop agriculture and improve the domestic animals, he diligently employed the knowledge he had previously acquired in Europe. An extensive and active correspondence with some of the best English agriculturists afforded him great advantages in his chosen occupation. He possessed the gift of discriminating the qualities of the various breeds of animals, and thus selected those most adapted to benefit his native country. His powers of observation, united with close practical attention, very soon enabled him to decide upon, and led him to introduce, some most valuable improvements in the management of crops, and in conducting the details and economy of the farm.

In the pursuit of these objects he became involved in the most ardent controversies with advocates of opposing or ill-founded theories, against which he threw down the gauntlet, always backed by practical results. The character of his mind led him, in all possible cases, to resort to proofs based upon practice; and thus, especially in agriculture, he was most successful.

His days were devoted to his affairs, and his nights were often passed in the production of essays and papers for the popular agricultural publications. Among which was "The American Farmer," edited by J. S. Skinner. He wrote "Hints for American Husbandmen," and "Memoirs of the Pennsylvania Agricultural Society." His correspondence, connected with these pursuits, was very large, and extended to most parts of the United States.

Among his agricultural controversies he encountered during some time the opposition and vehemence of the able and celebrated Colonel Timothy Pickering. Such discussions added great zest to his favorite pursuit, and lent excitement to the quiet details of country life.

He was a prime mover in establishing "The Pennsylvania Agricultural Society," about 1823. In this he was associated with Jonathan Roberts, Reuben Haines, the brothers Serrill, Dr. William Harris, Dr. Darlington, George Blight, Matthew Roberts, and many distinguished and worthy men of Chester, Delaware, and Bucks counties.

His natural tastes, not less than a strong desire to advance the

good of his country, led him to the pursuit of agriculture ; for he constantly asserted his conviction that the wealth and power of the nation, as well as the happiness and comfort of the people, were to be most substantially promoted by developing and improving the general husbandry. With this object, he exerted all his abilities to discover and make known the best systems of cultivation, the most valuable kinds, and the most successful rotation of crops, and also the most economical application of labor ; for this, he asserted, was the great element of success in American cultivation, where land is cheap and labor dear. In this aspect, he urged upon his countrymen the vital difficulty in the way of adopting in America the systems in vogue in Europe, and the danger of following plans published in foreign works. He insisted that American farmers too often disregarded the proportion of their land to their labor ; their farms were so large they could rarely till them sufficiently ; and the barn-yards, if they existed at all, were too often neglected, or were rarely large enough to meet the requirements of the farms. He deprecated the waste caused by fencing farms into many small lots. He urged greater care in curing and housing the crops, the advantage of higher tillage, and the great benefit of establishing a deep tilth by an original deep ploughing. He labored constantly to awaken a sense of the importance of care and thrift in the minor details, which contribute so much to the comfort and well-being of the great farming population ; indeed, upon these details their advancement and elevation in social life depend almost entirely. The advantage of an attention to neatness, cleanliness, and good arrangement about the outside of their dwellings, as an essential element in the development of their well-being, he ceaselessly urged upon farmers.

His greatest effort was directed to the improvement of the horned cattle and sheep of the United States. He spent large sums through the discreet and skilful hands of friends in England, who selected the best animals of their kind which could be procured ; and extraordinary care was bestowed in conveying them safely across the Atlantic. By these means, he obtained some of the finest breeding animals of England, and he sent several of them to various parts of the country, always in the hope of improving the native races by infusing the blood of well-selected imported animals.

To the last day of his life, he was proud of many pieces of plate, the trophies of many a cattle-show. They were among the treasured heir-looms he had to bestow upon his children. These, he said, were the proudest triumphs of his life, for they were gained in opening a new field for the benefit of the great agricultural interest.

His especial efforts were directed to the introduction of the Improved Durham Short Horns, as distinguished from the huge old Durham Short Horns. Among the races of sheep, he considered the South Downs most worthy of introduction, as better adapted to the nature of our climate, possessing a hardy constitution, and requiring less care than any other breed. Aware that they do not produce a large quantity of wool, it was still of excellent quality, and he asserted their flesh was best of all for the table, and the carcass had less waste than all others. These were the breeds of animals which his experience led him to prefer, because they produced, with a fair share of attention, a better return than any others within the means and resources, or fitted for the wants and conditions of American agriculture.

He continually opposed the tendency to produce animals chiefly remarkable for size, unless it could be attained with equal economy in care and feeding, and with comparatively as little waste, or "offal," as it is technically termed.

No pecuniary benefit was ever returned to him by his animals or farm, as he managed the whole with a view to his great object alone,—the improvement of the breeds of animals and of agriculture. This was the amusement and the business of his life during many years, and was the source of much happiness. The success which attended his efforts, and those of his fellow-laborers, attracted the competition of men in the West, who mistook great size for excellence in domestic animals. This led them to import many coarse and comparatively worthless animals; between which and the better families, the American public were unable to discriminate. The increased waste and bad qualities of such ill-chosen races more than equalled the apparent gain in point of size. Besides, they were almost totally destitute of dairy qualities, one of the first requisites of general utility. It was a long time before the true reason for this want of success of these importations began to be



understood, and it is doubtful if at this time the evil be overcome, or the mistake appreciated. Mr. Powel always regretted it; and long after his declining health arrested his active pursuits, he continued to express his grief at the circumstance; saying that he longed to recover the ground which had been lost to our agriculture by a neglect of the true "Improved Durham Short Horns."

His desire to promote the interest of the country, led him to uphold agriculture as the best foundation for the progress and power of the United States; and in its development, he firmly believed, lay the surest safeguard of our liberties. He was, on this account, always consistently a free trader; and he was a member of the Free Trade Convention, which sat about the year 1832. He claimed as a victory for free trade principles, with agriculture as a basis, the fact, that England has only been able to regain her supremacy in certain branches of manufactures after opening her ports to the introduction of agricultural products, more abundant and cheaper than her own. Agriculture, dependent upon manufactures, created and maintained by artificial protection, must be always uncertain, and liable to ruinous vicissitudes. Agriculturists, he asserted, were the most free, and they ought to be the happiest and best of mankind. As a population, their tendency is opposed to centralization, which is the danger of all republican institutions, and especially of our own. In productive agriculture, he said, the great mass of the people find their steadiest, safest, and best employment; and, in proportion as the cultivated regions of our country are rendered by greater skill more fruitful, so only can it increase in population, wealth, and power; and so will it be able to pour forth the resistless tide of free and intelligent sons of our own soil, to roll in a mighty torrent of population over the broad lands of the teeming West.

In political principles he was always consistently a republican, "one of the people," a Democrat; always sincerely siding with the working man, and espousing his honest cause; feeling sure that of such the mass and pride of the nation is formed; and in best directing the efforts of labor consisted, he thought, the secret of the most rapid development of national prosperity. Thus, in 1827, he was a member of the Senate of Pennsylvania, where he discharged his duties with ability and with remarkable independence.



While here, he opposed the incorporation of the Sunday-School Union with great and successful vehemence, solely on the ground that, if incorporated by an act of the legislature, it would result in a practical union of sectarian power with the law of the land. He was forced very unwillingly to this conclusion; and his course upon this measure led to great excitement and misconception; but it grew entirely out of his conscientious support of the Constitution, which he was sworn to defend. He was a good speaker, and possessed of great powers of debate.

On going to Europe, in 1830, he took leave of active political life, and avoided ever after becoming a candidate for office; though he still continued to be an interested observer and a decided partaker in all the movements of the day. He was an active opponent of the extension of the capital and power of the banking institutions of Pennsylvania; and he asserted that, in granting all corporate powers, the legislature ought to introduce the clause of individual liability. He thought it was wrong to grant charters to banks, which thus placed in the hands of a few, a monied power, capable, by fictitious means, of elevating or depressing, at their pleasure, the exchanges of the country, and which could modify the value of property, and even alter the reward of every man's labor, by raising an arbitrary standard at will. In a free country, private banking, with individual responsibility, is a business quite as legitimate as any other; and therefore the legislature ought not to take that privilege from the public, by conferring extraordinary and often irresponsible powers upon a few, for which no adequate return was ever made.

He was a determined enemy to the principle of incorporation, for all objects within the scope of individual capital and enterprise, not only considering it a usurpation of individual rights, but as exerting a general demoralizing tendency, and at variance with the spirit of our institutions.

He was the originator of the first law prohibiting the circulation of bank notes of less amount than five dollars; and he always hoped it would be extended to those under ten dollars. The usury laws encountered his opposition, upon the principle that money is a commodity which should be allowed to find its own level, and therefore the Government should not dictate its value.

He cultivated his taste for the fine arts; and he brought to America many beautiful works of art from Europe. In this he consulted not merely his own gratification, but he cherished an ardent desire to contribute to the improvement of art at home. Even in early life he felt great interest in native art, as testified by a graceful tribute of Mr. Sully. This interest continued unabated till his death.

His taste was stern and severe. In all his feelings he was a republican. For this reason he opposed not only in theory, but discountenanced in practice the lavish and wanton expenditure upon mere luxury, which leads to so much of the misery around us.

He valued men, not for their origin or surroundings, but for their truth and honor,—for their heart, and for individual worth,—for their acts, as these illustrated each man's motives. He valued things, as they were intrinsically beautiful or excellent; and never because they were costly, far-fetched, or foreign. He criticised severely those misplaced embellishments, which so often sacrifice the true purpose of our efforts to the pretensions of luxury. He contended against the frequent perversion of the real objects of life, where outward show and empty ostentation stand in the place of cordiality and fellowship. These, he said, with deep regret, were the besetting sins of American social life. He deplored that we should commit them, in the vain effort to imitate the corrupt and vicious habits of European aristocratic life. He condemned such a departure from our republican mission, as being a most deplorable consequence of the allurements of European magnificence, which must injure our fortunes, and, worst of all, degrade our hearts, and sully our hopes as a people.

In all the intercourse of private life, he was marked by manliness, sincerity, and good feeling. He was an active and determined opponent, who never despised an adversary, or neglected any proper means of success. He was bold, brave, and fearless of consequences, because he always acted upon his convictions of right, which were matured with the utmost care. By nature persevering and hopeful, he thus seldom failed in his efforts.

Through his long life, he never cherished enmity, or refused forgiveness. He sincerely endeavored to practise the sterling virtues first instilled by his revered and excellent father, and diligently

cultivated in him by an exemplary and devoted mother. He wished to live at peace with all men; he strove to do good to his neighbors, with his whole heart; he was full of sympathy for the unfortunate; and he delighted, even at the cost of his own privation, to aid the suffering and oppressed. At the close of every day, when he laid his head upon his pillow, he fervently commended his thoughts and hopes to his God, and humbly asked forgiveness for his errors; always in a spirit of confiding piety, acknowledging his accountability, and trusting in the inestimable goodness and boundless mercy of heaven.

Perhaps some forgiveness should be asked for speaking abroad of the simple details of the life of a quiet citizen; but of such the mass, and perhaps the best of the community is composed.

Throughout the greater part of his life he enjoyed most vigorous health; and thus he was fitted for athletic and manly exercises, and enabled to indulge in the sports of the field, more especially shooting, of which he was very fond; it was, indeed, his only relaxation.

At length, a fall upon the ice injured his thigh, and deprived him of the power of taking exercise. His once powerful and commanding form soon gave way to this misfortune, and the bodily infirmities of age gathered fast around him. Yet, without a murmur, and with quiet patience, he endured the pain and the bitter privations of bodily decrepitude, rendered more sadly trying by the full possession of his powerful intellect, and all his ardent feelings. He died, as he said but a few hours before, to his friends and family gathered around him, under the firm assurance that "we shall all meet happy."

Thus at the ripe age of man, fully threescore and ten, he passed away; perfectly satisfied that death alone could bring relief to his sufferings. And so, on the 14th of June, 1856, ended his career of hope, energy, truth, and honor,—in peace with man, and full hope in heaven.

His death occurred at his summer residence in Newport, Rhode Island. He left three sons and two daughters, the survivors of nine children.

The merits of John Hare Powel, as an agriculturist, and his services to agriculture, are recorded in terms of just praise, in the

Transactions of the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society (vol. ii, page 161). The President and founder of that Society, James Gowen, Esq., whose enlightened and practical efforts for the improvement of agriculture are admitted by all, in his address before the Lancaster County Agricultural Society, after alluding to Judge Peters, and other wealthy and influential citizens, who had devoted much time and money to agriculture, thus proceeds:—

“The taste, enterprise, and public spirit of these gentlemen, led to making large outlays in improving land, experimenting in culture, erecting fine buildings, ornamenting grounds, importing choice breeds of cattle, sheep, and swine, and patronizing agricultural journals. These investments enured more to the benefit of the country than to the individuals by whom they were made, and were mainly undertaken in the spirit of a lofty and generous patriotism. The man most entitled to praise in this connection in Pennsylvania is John Hare Powel. Had his efforts been properly appreciated, and his example followed in the selection and breeding of cattle, it would have added to the value of the live stock, beef, and dairy products of the State, some millions of dollars annually.”

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## MATTHEW PRATT.

MATTHEW PRATT, the subject of this notice, was born in Philadelphia, on the 23d September, 1734. His father was a goldsmith. Matthew Pratt received such an education as the common schools in the city afforded; and, at the age of fifteen, was placed an apprentice to his uncle, James Claypoole, from whom (to use his own words) he learned all the different branches of the painting business, particularly portrait painting, which was his favorite study from ten years of age. This allusion to the different branches of the painting business shows plainly the degraded state in which the arts were at that time in this country.

Mr. Pratt was a member of Mr. West's family, and studied his art under him with close application, and received from him at all



times (to use his own words) "the attentions of a friend and brother."

After spending a life principally in the cultivation of the arts, of which he was in this country a most effective pioneer, he was attacked by the gout in the head and stomach, and died on the 9th day of January, 1805, aged seventy years, three months, and nineteen days.

## HENRY PRATT.

HENRY PRATT, an eminent shipping merchant of Philadelphia, was born in this city on the 14th day of May, 1761. He was the eldest son of Matthew Pratt, a portrait painter, who was born and followed his artistic profession in Philadelphia, and was a contemporary of the celebrated Benjamin West.

At an early age of life, Mr. Pratt exhibited a strong propensity for mercantile pursuits, trade, and commerce. Before his majority, he engaged in the china and crockery trade; and, soon afterwards, entered into the grocery business. He finally became one of the most extensive shipping merchants in Philadelphia; known far and wide. He ultimately amassed a large fortune, and became the owner of a very large amount of real estate, among which was the celebrated country-seat, known as "Lemon Hill," situated on the banks of the Schuylkill, near Fairmount, now belonging to the city of Philadelphia.

Mr. Pratt was three times married. His first wife being Miss Frances Moore, daughter of Richard Moore, to whom he was married on the 22d June, 1778. His second wife was Miss Eliza Dundas, to whom he was married on the 27th October, 1785. His third wife was Miss Susannah Care, daughter of Peter Care, a respectable merchant of Philadelphia, to whom he was married on the 11th September, 1794. By all of his wives he had numerous descendants.

Mr. Pratt was a fortunate buyer of real estate, as the result of his life fully shows. His great perseverance and energy marked him to be a merchant of uncommon and unusual qualities. No







calamity of trade or commerce unmanned him, or threw him upon a bed of nervous sickness. Mercantile pursuits were his hobby of life, and he was constantly looking to the bright side of adventures and speculations. With an unlimited credit, and possessing the confidence of merchants and bankers at home and abroad, he passed through the panics and pressures in the money market for more than half a century, and came out of all the vicissitudes of the times unscathed, possessing fortune and fame.

Of the most enterprising and successful merchants of Philadelphia, Henry Pratt may well be classed with Girard, Ridgway, Clapier, Ralston, Beck, and others. He pursued, for a long life, the even tenor of his way; generally confining himself strictly to the business of a merchant.

He died 6th February, A.D. 1838, in the seventy-seventh year of his age.

For most of the materials of the foregoing sketch we are indebted to his brother, Mr. Thomas Pratt.

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## JONAS PRESTON, M.D.

DR. JONAS PRESTON was the son of Dr. Jonas Preston, who emigrated to this country from Wales, in England, previous to the American Revolution, and settled in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, where the subject of our memoir was born. Dr. Preston, his son, settled and practised medicine in Philadelphia for many years, and amassed a fortune of about four hundred thousand dollars. At his death, which took place in 1836, he was seventy-two years of age. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and a man of great benevolence; and his endowment of the "Preston Retreat," for which, by his will, he appropriated the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, is a certain evidence of his charitable disposition to the human family. Dr. Preston was a kind neighbor, a virtuous and honorable citizen of the old school.

It is to be regretted that the loss which accrued to the estate of Dr. Preston after his death, by banks and the Schuylkill Naviga-

tion Company, prevented the completion of some of his designs in his legacy to the "Preston Retreat," Lying-in Hospital, but withal, we still hope his noble charity may be, at no distant period, put into operation with deserving success.

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### COLONEL THOMAS PROCTOR.

THOMAS PROCTOR was a native of Ireland, and emigrated to this country before the Revolution, and joined the ranks of the American army. He worked his way by his deeds of valor while engaged in the battle of Brandywine. His promotion was deserved, and in after life he became a respected and honored citizen of Philadelphia. He was by trade a carpenter, and belonged to the "Carpenters' Society." He belonged to the fraternity of Free Masons. As Colonel of Artillery in the action at Brandywine, Colonel Proctor displayed great courage, and as it was the first battle in which the Marquis de Lafayette was engaged in, he was honored by having fought in the same conflict with him and General Washington.

He died March 16th, 1807, aged sixty-seven years, and his remains were interred in St. Paul's Churchyard in this city.

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### ROBERT PROUD.

ROBERT PROUD, a historian, was born in Yorkshire, England, May 10th, 1728, and in January, 1759, arrived at Philadelphia, where he lived half a century. For many years he was a teacher in a school of the Quakers. In the Revolution he was a decided royalist. About the year 1791, he devoted himself to writing his history, the publication of which was attended with pecuniary loss. He died July 7th, 1813, aged eighty-five years. He was tall; his

nose Roman, "with most impending brows. *Domine* Proud wore a curled gray wig, and a half-cocked, ancient hat. He was the model of a gentleman."

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### C. S. RAFINESQUE.

C. S. RAFINESQUE was born at Galata, a suburb of Constantinople, in 1784. His father was a Levant merchant, from Marseilles. While an infant he was taken to that city by sea, and he said that it was owing to this early voyage that he was ever after exempt from sea-sickness. In his seventh year his father went to China, and on his return, ran into Philadelphia to escape the English cruisers, where he died of the yellow fever, in 1793. Meanwhile, the mother, terrified at the *sans culottes*, removed with her children to Leghorn. After passing several years in various cities in the north of Italy, he was sent to the United States in 1802, with his brother. He landed at Philadelphia, visited Bartram and other great naturalists—his botanical tastes having already developed themselves—and travelled a little in Pennsylvania and Delaware. He returned to Leghorn with a large stock of specimens, in March, 1805, and in May of the same year sailed for Sicily, where he passed ten years in "residence and travels," engaged partly in botany, and partly in merchandise, during which he published a work, "The Analysis of Nature," in the French language. In 1815 he sailed for New York, but was shipwrecked on the Long Island coast. "I lost," he says, "everything—my fortune, my share of the cargo, my collections and labors for twenty years past, my books, my manuscripts, my drawings, even my clothes—all that I possessed, except some scattered funds, and the insurance ordered in England for one-third the value of my goods. The ship was a total wreck, and finally righted and sunk, after throwing up the confined air of the hold by an explosion."

He made his way to New York and presented himself to Dr. Mitchell, who introduced him to friends and obtained a place for him as tutor to the family of Mr. Livingston, on the Hudson. In



1818 he made a tour to the West, leaving the stage at Lancaster, "to cross the Alleghanies on foot, as every botanist ought." He floated down the Ohio in an ark, to Louisville, where he received an invitation to become Professor of Botany, at Transylvania University, Lexington. After returning to Philadelphia, to close his business affairs, he removed to Lexington, and appears to have obtained the professorship, and performed his duties for some time. He still, however, continued his travels, lectured in various places, and endeavored to start a magazine and a botanic garden, but without success in either case. He finally established himself in Philadelphia, where he published "The Atlantic Journal and Friend of Knowledge, a Cyclopædic Journal and Review." The first number is dated "Spring of 1832," and forms an octavo of thirty-six pages. "This journal," says the prospectus, "shall contain everything calculated to enlighten, instruct, and improve the mind." But eight numbers appeared. In 1836 he published "Life of Travels and Researches," a brief narrative, furnishing little more than an itinerary of the places he visited during his almost uninterrupted peregrinations. In addition to these works he published several volumes on botany. His death occurred at Philadelphia, September 18th, A.D. 1842.

### CONDY RAGUET.

COLONEL RAGUET was a native of South Carolina, but came to Philadelphia very early in life. Soon after his maturity, he became a popular writer, and many of his productions appeared in "The Portfolio;" and, at one time, he conducted a periodical, called "The Examiner," in favor of free trade. Colonel Raguet resided for some time in the island of Hayti, and wrote some very interesting letters on the state of affairs there during the murderous scenes of the Revolution. They are to be found in "The Portfolio," vol. iv, 1810, &c. In the War of 1812, he commanded a company of very fine volunteers, the *élite* of our city, who did service by camping out on Shellpot Hill, near Wilmington, Delaware.

He was there made a Colonel. Colonel Raguet represented our country as Minister or Chargé to Brazil for several years; and was, at one time, a member of the State Legislature of Pennsylvania. He was one of our most valuable citizens; and died, a few years since, when President of one of our Insurance Companies.

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## ROBERT RALSTON.

BY C. C. CUYLER, D.D.

ROBERT RALSTON was of Irish descent, and born at Little Brandywine, Chester County, Pennsylvania, on the 18th December, 1761, and was therefore in the seventy-fifth year of his age at the time of his decease.

His education was not of an extended character, and probably designed to fit him for the line of life in which he intended to move. He did, however, acquire sufficient knowledge of the Latin language to enable him to translate with facility the quotations which occurred in the course of his reading. His attention appears to have been principally to the English language, the beauties of which he was capable of relishing.

He commenced business in this city, probably very soon after he became of age, with very little capital, but with a character, in the leading traits of which, those who had an opportunity of knowing him had confidence, and this, under the Divine blessing, enabled him to progress steadily in the enlargement of his business.

His qualities as a man of business were of the highest order. Take him altogether, he has been justly considered as a beautiful model for the character of the merchant. Let me add, that he did not make haste to grow rich, and thereby preserved himself from many of those sorrows with which multitudes have pierced themselves through. Alas! that this should be one of the most prevalent sins of our age and country.

In the month of November, 1785, he was married to Miss Sarah Clarkson, daughter of Matthew Clarkson, Esq., in his day one of

the most respectable citizens, and for several years the chief magistrate of this city. This connection was one of affection, harmony, and happiness, till it was dissolved by her death, on the 29th of December, 1820, in the fifty-fourth year of her age.

He was ordained as a Ruling Elder of the Second Presbyterian Church, the 2d of December, 1802, and he lived in the communion of this church for the space of fifty years, and for nearly thirty-four years officiated as one of its elders. But these bonds, with all others which united him to earth, were dissolved on the 11th of August, 1836.

Integrity was the basis of his character. He was distinguished for his humility, meekness, gentleness, and courtesy of manners.

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## EDWARD RANDOLPH.

EDWARD RANDOLPH was descended from an old and respectable family, and was born, in 1754, at Perth Amboy, in New Jersey. Early in life he was sent to New York to learn the trade of a printer. The house of his employer was at that time the resort of some of the most prominent citizens, and the relations of the Colonies and the Mother Country were naturally subjects of constant and enlightened discussion.

When the Revolution at length broke out, he applied for and received a commission as Ensign in the Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment, in the brigade commanded by General Anthony Wayne. He was subsequently promoted to the rank of Captain, and performed services which made him well known as a brave and useful officer. He took part in the battles of Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth, and was present at the surprise and massacre of Paoli. As a somewhat prominent actor in that terrible scene, Mr. Randolph's knowledge of its circumstances was probably more exact and minute than that possessed by most other men. These are too well known in the main to need repeating here, except in the briefest manner.

The American General was convinced that the enemy were at

a distance, and that no immediate attack was to be apprehended. An English deserter had brought the intelligence that a British force was nigh at hand, and that a night attack upon the encampment was meditated. General Wayne placed no confidence in these representations; but, nevertheless, more as a matter of form than of necessity, sent a few men to keep watch during the night, and with them Mr. Randolph as their commander. While they were upon guard, the enemy came upon them so suddenly and unexpectedly that they had no time to give the alarm. Of the men composing the outlying guard all but two or three were instantly killed, and Mr. Randolph himself only escaped death by the merest accident. The rest of the story is a familiar tale.

During the winter campaign at Valley Forge, Captain Randolph shared with his fellow-soldiers in all the hardships and privations of that severe ordeal of patriotism. He did not remain with the army until the actual close of the war, but he participated in the greater part of its trials and perils.

After leaving the army, Mr. Randolph came to Philadelphia, and entered into business at first upon a very small scale. By help of industry, economy, and the reputation for integrity, which he soon established, he gradually increased his means, and extended his business until he became one of the largest East India merchants in the city.

Mr. Randolph was, in his politics, the steady friend and supporter of Washington, and exercised his privilege of voting up to a late period in his advanced life.

Mr. Randolph was married, in 1779, to Miss Juliana Steel. He died, in 1837, in his eighty-fourth year, leaving a large family of children and grandchildren. A numerous assemblage of citizens and the members of the Friends' Society followed his remains to the grave; and his memory is still cherished by all who are familiar with his sterling worth and unostentatious patriotism.

## JACOB RANDOLPH, M.D.

JACOB RANDOLPH, the subject of this brief memoir, was born in Philadelphia, November 25th, 1796. Early in life he was sent to the Friends' School, on Fourth Street, and there was taught the customary branches of an English and classical education. On the completion of his scholastic course, in 1814, he commenced the study of medicine, under the direction of Dr. Joseph Woollens, of the Northern Liberties; but this gentleman dying during his pupilage, he afterwards entered the office of Dr. Cleaver, who, at that time, enjoyed an extensive practice and reputation in the same district.

In 1817, at the age of twenty-one, after passing through the prescribed course of medical studies, he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. Some time after graduation, he was made surgeon to a ship bound to China; but, in consequence of severe and protracted suffering from seasickness, he left the vessel in England, where she first stopped, and, after a visit of some months, passed principally in Scotland and France, returned home. Soon after his return, Dr. Randolph established himself as a practitioner; and, I am informed, at this period of his career, showed no particular inclination for that branch of medicine in which he afterwards became distinguished. In 1822, he married Miss Physick, daughter of Dr. Philip Syng Physick; and it was at this time, after the lapse of the first few years of tiresome novitiate, which nearly all who enter upon the duties of a profession must pass, that he appears to have determined upon devoting himself to the practice of surgery.

In 1830, he received the appointment of Surgeon to the Almshouse Infirmary; and in that school an ample opportunity was afforded to him for experience, and for practically perfecting himself in, and exhibiting his powers as an operative surgeon. In the same year, Dr. Randolph became associated with several other





medical gentlemen in an institution for summer teaching, called the School of Medicine, and first appeared as a lecturer on surgery. At this period, I am assured, by one who knew him well, he was an impressive and agreeable lecturer, and exhibited that skill and ability as a teacher in all the practical details of his branch which not only indicated future success, but which subsequently placed him in a prominent position among the surgeons of the country. With the School of Medicine he continued to be connected till its dissolution, and the duties of Surgeon to the Infirmary he faithfully discharged for several years. In 1835, on the resignation of Dr. Hewson, Dr. Randolph was elected one of the surgeons of the Pennsylvania Hospital, a post which he retained at the period of his decease; and, in the last year of his life was made Professor of Clinical Surgery in the University of Pennsylvania.

In 1840, he revisited Europe; and, being desirous of availing himself of the opportunities which the hospitals of Paris offered for observation and improvement, he preceded his family by some months, in order the better to benefit by their inspection. While in Europe, he was elected Professor of Operative Surgery in the Jefferson Medical College, which appointment he declined, inasmuch as it would have necessitated his speedy return. Upon his return home, after an absence of two years, he again resumed practice as a consulting surgeon, and, in this capacity, enjoyed a large share of business. Soon after his arrival among us, a complimentary dinner was given to him by his professional brethren, which, coming, as it did, spontaneously from a very large body of those who so well knew him, and were in daily intercourse with him, speaks loudly of the hold he possessed on their affections.

In his professional intercourse, Dr. Randolph was straightforward, courteous, and considerate. Of a gay and amiable disposition, open and unobtrusive in manner, of the strictest veracity, warm in his friendships, firm in his resolutions, cautious in the expression of opinions, and not allowing those which he had deliberately formed to be easily shaken, he was endeared to all who had the happiness to know him well. In the prime of life, and in the midst of a useful career, he was taken suddenly from us, on the 29th of February, 1848. During his short illness, he was col-

lected, and in the full possession of his mind. He prepared for death without fear, doubtless,

"Sustained and soothed by an unfaltering trust"

in the principles of that Society in which he had been educated.

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## WILLIAM RAWLE.

BY DAVID PAUL BROWN.

WILLIAM RAWLE was born on the 28th day of April, 1759, of honorable and distinguished parentage, of the Society of Friends; yet their proudest distinction, I say it with no disparagement, was in giving birth to such a son. The earlier years of his life were passed in the acquisition of the rudiments of education, and those sublime principles of elevated morality and religion, which were, in after times, matured into the most devout and exemplary piety. At the age of nineteen, having passed through the various stages of preliminary instruction in his native land, and having for some years been engaged in prosecuting his legal studies under Counsellor Kemp, a learned and distinguished jurist of our sister city of New York, just before the conclusion of the American Revolution, he visited the Mother Country for the purpose of perfecting himself in the arduous duties of the profession for which he was designed. In London, he was regularly installed a Templar, and pursued his studies with that untiring assiduity which ever marked his career through a subsequent brilliant practice of more than half a century.

After completing his legal studies, and visiting most of the cities of Europe, in the year 1783 he returned to this country, full of zeal and hope, a most thorough and accomplished gentleman, a ripe and elegant scholar, an artist, a poet, a philosopher; and without which, all other accomplishments are but dross, a Christian. What a beautiful moral and intellectual picture does such a man at such an age present!

Towards the Bench, he was always conciliatory and respectful; and, whatever might be the result of a cause, having faithfully dis-

charged his duty in its management, he was neither elated by success nor dejected by defeat. This was the more extraordinary, as his feelings and temper were naturally excitable and enthusiastic.

In 1791, he was appointed District Attorney of the United States by the Father of his Country ; from which post, shortly after the election of Mr. Adams, he resigned, having continued in office about eight years. The situation of Attorney-General was more than once tendered to him by Washington, but as often declined, as being calculated to interfere with those domestic enjoyments for which no public preferment or profit could furnish an equivalent ; and the President was himself too much alive to the influence of retirement and domestic virtue, to demand a sacrifice from another which he himself so reluctantly made.

Among the most cherished and the most valuable of his works, however, and which I trust will not be withheld from the world, are those pertaining to the subject of religion. His "Essay upon Angelic Influences" is replete with the most fascinating speculation and the soundest reflection. Nor is his "Discussion of the Subject of Original Sin, and the Virtue of Baptism," although certainly less elaborate, undeserving of the highest regard and encomium. Added to these, there is to be found among his manuscripts an argument of the most polished and cogent character, the object of which is to show that there is sufficient proof of the truth of Christianity to be derived from the parables of our Saviour alone.

In the year 1815, fate dashed the cup of happiness from the lips of our lamented friend. One of his daughters, an ornament to society, and "the immediate jewel" of her family, in the bloom and redolence of health and beauty, and with intellectual charms even beyond her personal attractions, was suddenly snatched away by death, and left an aching void in the heart of the domestic circle, her friends and the community, which the alleviating hand of time partially concealed, but could never repair.

In the year 1828, the degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him by Dartmouth University, and a short time before his death he was applied to, by that institution, for a third edition of his valuable work upon Constitutional Law, which had been adopted as a text-book in many of the institutions of learning in the United States. At the period of this application, however, his

mind was no longer with this world, but in close communion with its Maker. The proposal, therefore, was declined. For many years of his life, as has been said, he had drunk deeply from the springs of general literature and science; but as he approached the fount of eternal life and love, all other enjoyments became comparatively insipid. Within the last year of his probation, while sitting by his bedside, knowing his fondness for books, I inquired whether there was anything I could supply him with from the limited stores of my library. "Yes," replied he, "any book you may have upon the subject of religion will be most welcome to me, as preparatory to the great change that rapidly approaches. General reading is adapted only to general objects; my attention is now directed solely to *one*, and that is, 'to make my calling and election sure.'"

This excellent man and accomplished scholar died, April 12th, 1836, in the seventy-seventh year of his age.

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## JOHN READ.

JOHN READ was born at Newcastle, in the present State of Delaware, on the 7th July, 1769. He was the fourth son of George Read and Gertrude his wife, daughter of George Ross, pastor of Immanuel Church, in the town of Newcastle, who had emigrated from Rosshire (town of Tain, parish of Fern), Scotland, in the year 1705.

When only seven years old, he was a spectator of the attack made by the row-galleys upon the Roebuck and Liverpool frigates off the mouth of Christiana Creek, and accompanied his mother in her various removals during the war, which the exposed situation of their residence at Newcastle made necessary for their safety. These events made a deep impression upon the child, and were often recurred to, in after life.

His education was that of his day, as will be seen by a letter from his father to the Rev. Dr. Witherspoon, President of Princeton College, New Jersey, and an old and intimate friend.



“NEWCASTLE, 17th October, 1785.

“REVEREND SIR: This will be handed to you by two young gentlemen, one my son, the other a youth, the son of a deceased friend, who wish to pursue a particular line of study at your college for the ensuing twelve months, if the same may be consistent with your rules and regulations. They have gone through all the common classical Latin authors, except ‘Cicero’s Orations,’ at the grammar school in this town, but have read none other than some small parts of the Greek Testament, as nothing more of that language was intended for them. I had expected ere this they [would] have gone through ‘Cicero’s Orations;’ however, I have been disappointed. Both these young men express the desire to begin the study of the law after employing twelve months in some other branches of learning that may be useful and necessary, to wit, logic, moral philosophy, and the most useful part of the mathematics; and they wait on you to be informed if they can have a chance of pursuing such a line of education in the college at Princeton. I have the satisfaction to say that their morals and conduct here have been as unexceptionable as those of any youths within my knowledge, and I have reason to hope for a continuance of the like, more especially if they shall be placed in the college under your direction. They now attend you to be informed if they can be thus instructed, and if so, will engage their lodgings, and return again to Princeton by the beginning or middle of the next month.

“I am, &c.,

“GEORGE READ.”

The two young men were John Read and his friend, Cantwell Jones. Mr. Read became a member of the Cliosophic Society, and graduated with credit in 1787. During his stay at college, Mr. Read frequently visited the hospitable mansion of Mrs. Read, at Bordentown, the wife of his uncle, Captain Read, and the mother of Mrs. Richard Stockton.

On his return home, Mr. Read commenced the study of the law in his father’s office; and being admitted to the Bar, removed to the city of Philadelphia. He first resided, with his brother William, in a small house in Dock Street, and remained in town during the pestilence of 1793.

In 1796 he married Martha, daughter of Samuel Meredith, the first Treasurer of the United States, who had been an active patriot of the Revolution, and of whose father, Reese Meredith, the following well-known anecdote is told:—

When General Washington was a young man, and before he had attained distinction, he visited Philadelphia, and made his appearance at the Coffee-House, where he had not a single acquaintance, and was therefore unnoticed. Mr. Meredith, coming in and finding a stranger in this awkward situation, went up to him, took him by the hand, inquired his name, introduced himself, took him to his house, and behaved with so much kindness and hospitality, as not only to induce his guest to continue at his house while he remained in the city, but afterwards to make it his home when he visited Philadelphia.

Mr. Meredith then lived at the northeast corner of Water and Walnut Streets, and owned what are now called Cope's stores. He died in 1779.

Under an Act of Congress, of the 30th June, 1797, Mr. Read was appointed Agent-General of the United States, to act on their behalf under the direction of the Attorney-General, in relation to such claims as might be made against the United States, before the Commissioners appointed to carry into effect the sixth article of Jay's Treaty. Some of his labors are to be found in a book, published in Philadelphia, called "Arguments on British Debts," and which contains some ably written papers by Mr. Read.

In this office he was retained by Mr. Jefferson, at the request of the venerable John Dickinson, the author of the celebrated Farmer's Letters. The following letters explain these circumstances:—

"PHILADELPHIA, April 8, 1802.

"DEAR SIR: As my office respecting British debts will very soon terminate, by reason of the convention lately entered into with that Government, I cannot avoid the expression of my thanks to you for a marked instance of your kindness towards me, which I have very recently been informed of. I allude, sir, to your request of the President of the United States for my continuance in office, which the late change in the administration might have rendered doubtful. As this act was unsolicited by me, and as I can have

but small personal claims on your friendship, I must attribute it to your regard for the memory of my respected father. It was his happiness, through a long and useful life, to enjoy your particular friendship; and it is a source of great consolation to those he has left behind, that that friendship has survived him.

“Accept, sir, my particular thanks for this as well as other instances of your kindness toward me, and believe me to be, with great regard,

“Your friend,

“JOHN READ, JR.

“MR. DICKINSON.”

“MY DEAR FRIEND:—

“On my return from Kent, thy letter of the 8th was received.

“The information mentioned in it was true, and I was compelled to make the application by reverence for the memory of thy beloved father, and by affection for his relict and children, who will always be precious to my heart as long as it shall continue sensible of anything relating to this world.

“I am, with sincerity, thy friend,

“JOHN DICKINSON.

“WILMINGTON, the 12th day of the 11th month, 1802.

“JOHN READ, Junior, Esquire,

“Counsellor at Law, Philadelphia.”

Mr. Read took a deep interest in the affairs of his adopted city, was elected a member of Councils, and became well acquainted with Stephen Girard, who was a member of the Select Council, and of whose intuitive perception of what was just he always spoke in the highest terms.

In 1815, Mr. Read was elected a member of the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, and was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Roads and Inland Navigation, composed, at that day, of thirty-four members. He was re-elected the next year; and, while presiding over the deliberations of this committee, took a severe cold, which produced an illness which brought him to the brink of the grave. Mrs. Read, who went to Harrisburg to nurse her husband, fell a sacrifice to her devotion to him.

Having recovered from the immediate effects of his sickness, Mr. Read was elected to the Senate, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Nicholas Biddle, Esq.; and, whilst a member of that body, was elected by them, in 1818, a director, on the part of the State, in the Philadelphia Bank. In 1817, on the revival of the office, he was appointed City Solicitor by the Mayor, General Robert Wharton. In 1819, he was elected President of the Philadelphia Bank, which office he held until his resignation in 1841. A few months afterwards he removed to the city of Trenton, where, amidst the friends and connections of his wife, he spent his remaining days, surrounded by his books, which formed a never-failing source of pleasure and information.

Mr. Read died on the 13th July, 1854, at the advanced age of eighty-five.

Mr. Read was a small, delicate-looking man, with a naturally weak constitution, requiring great care at all periods of his life. His temperate habits and bodily activity, with constant attention to his diet, secured him a longer life than his two brothers, George and William, who were both men of excellent constitutions.

Mr. Read was a perfectly upright man, of great industry, and of a very courteous and conciliatory address, mingled with the politeness of the old school. These qualities made him friends in all his different positions, whether as a lawyer, a member of the City Councils, of the legislature, or as the head of a large moneyed institution.

He was a communicating member of the Protestant Episcopal Church; and, for many years, the Rector's Warden of the united churches of Christ Church, St. Peter's, and St. James's; and, upon his removal to Trenton, took a deep interest in the welfare of St. Michael's Church at that place.

Mr. Read was a sincerely religious man, deeply interested in the truths of Christianity, and an humble but believing follower of our Saviour.

He was a devoted husband, a kind father, and a warm friend; a man of peaceful habits, he lived through three wars, two with the Mother Country; and he always recollected with pleasure that his maternal uncle, George Ross, and his wife's uncle, George Clymer,

were signers of the Declaration of Independence; and that his father, George Read, was one of the five signers who were also framers of the Constitution of the United States.

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### JOHN REDMAN, M.D.

JOHN REDMAN, M.D., first President of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, was born in that city, February 27th, 1722. After finishing his preparatory education in Mr. Tennent's academy, he entered upon the study of physic with John Kearsley, then one of the most respectable physicians of Philadelphia. When he commenced the practice of his profession he went to Bermuda, where he continued for several years. Thence he proceeded to Europe, for the purpose of perfecting his acquaintance with medicine. He lived one year in Edinburgh; he attended lectures, dissections, and the hospitals in Paris; he graduated at Leyden, in July, 1748; and, after passing some time at Guy's Hospital, he returned to America, and settled in his native city, where he soon gained great and deserved celebrity. In the evening of his life he withdrew from the labors of his profession; but it was only to engage in business of another kind. In the year 1784 he was elected an Elder of the Second Presbyterian Church, and the benevolent duties of this office employed him and gave him great delight. The death of his younger daughter, in 1806, was soon succeeded by the death of his wife, with whom he had lived near sixty years. He died of apoplexy, March 19th, 1808, aged eighty-six years.

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### JOSEPH REED.

GENERAL REED, President of the Council of Pennsylvania, was born in New Jersey August 27th, 1741, and graduated at Princeton in 1757. He studied law with R. Stockton, also at the Temple in London. On his return, he resided in Philadelphia, where he was



one of the Committee of Correspondence in 1774, and President of the Council. He accompanied Washington to Cambridge in July, 1775, and as his aid and secretary, remained with him during most of the campaign. In the campaign of 1776, he was Adjutant-General; by direction of Washington, he co-operated in the affair of Princeton by attacking the neighboring British posts. In the spring of 1777, he was appointed a general officer in the cavalry, but he declined the station, though he still attended the army. He was engaged in the battle of Germantown. In 1777, he was chosen a member of Congress. In May, 1778, when he was a member of Congress, the three commissioners from England arrived in America. Governor Johnstone, one of them, addressed private letters to F. Dana, R. Morris, and Mr. Reed, to secure their influence towards the restoration of harmony, giving to the two latter intimations of honor and emoluments. In October, 1778, he was chosen President of the Council of Pennsylvania, and he continued in this office until October, 1781. During his administration, violent parties sprung up from various causes, as the paper currency, opposition to the State Constitution, and he was often rudely assailed; yet he remained in office as long as he was eligible, and then returned to the profession of the law. He was content to rest the merits of his administration on the arrangements for establishing the University, for the gradual abolition of slavery, and the demolition of proprietary power. In 1784, he visited England for his health.

He published "Remarks on Johnstone's Speech, with Papers Relative to his Propositions, &c.," 1779; "Remarks on a Publication in the Gazetteer, with an Address to the People on the many Libels, &c.," 1783. This last was addressed to General Cadwalader, who replied, and published a pamphlet, 1783, which was republished in 1846, and which seemed to sustain the allegations made against General Reed.

He died March 4th, 1785, aged forty-two years.

## HENRY REED.

BY WILLIAM B. REED.

HENRY REED was born in Philadelphia on the 11th day of July, 1808. He was christened by the name of Henry Hope, though the middle name was afterwards dropped. His early education was at the classical school, of high repute in its day, of Mr. James Ross.

Mr. Reed entered the Sophomore Class at the University of Pennsylvania in September, 1822, and he graduated as Bachelor of Arts in 1825. He began the study of the law under the general guidance of Mr. Sergeant, then at the height of his professional fame, and was admitted to practice in the District Court of the City and County of Philadelphia in 1829.

In September, 1831, he relinquished the practice of his profession, and was elected Assistant Professor of English Literature in the University. In November of the same year, he was chosen Assistant Professor of Moral Philosophy. In 1835, he was elected Professor of Rhetoric and English Literature.

Mr. Reed was married, in 1834, to Elizabeth White Bronson, who, with three children, now survive him.

Early in May, 1854, accompanied by his sister-in-law, Miss Bronson, he sailed for Europe.

No American visiting the Old World as a private citizen ever received a kinder or more discriminating welcome. The last months of his life were pure sunshine. Before he landed in England, his friends, the family of Dr. Arnold, whom he had only known by correspondence, came on board the ship to receive him; and his earliest and latest hours of European sojourn were passed under the roof of the great poet whose memory he most revered, and whose writings had interwoven themselves with his intellectual and moral being.

But his last associations were with the cloisters of Canterbury (that spot, to my eye, of matchless beauty), the garden vales of

Devonshire, the valley of the Wye, and the glades of Rydal. His latest memory of this earth was of beautiful England in her summer garb of verdure. The last words he ever wrote were in a letter of the 20th September to his venerable friend, Mrs. Wordsworth, thanking her and his English friends generally for all she and they had done for him.

The rest is soon told.

On the 20th September, 1854, Mr. Reed with his sister embarked at Liverpool for New York, in the United States Steamship *Arctic*. Seven days afterward, at noon, on the 27th, when almost in sight of his native land, a fatal collision occurred, and before sundown, every human being left upon the ship had sunk under the waves of the ocean. The only survivor who was personally acquainted with my brother, saw him about two o'clock P.M. after the collision, and not very long before the ship sank, sitting with his sister in the small passage aft the dining saloon. "They were tranquil and silent, though their faces wore the look of painful anxiety."

The news of Mr. Reed's death was received with deep and intense feeling in the city of his birth, his education, and his active life. Philadelphia mourned sincerely for her son; and no tribute to his memory, no grateful expression or act of sympathy to his family, was withheld. For them all there are no adequate words of gratitude.

By his early death—for he was but forty-six years of age—all these hopes were doomed to disappointment.

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## BENJAMIN W. RICHARDS.

BENJAMIN W. RICHARDS was the son of William Richards, and was born at Batsto Iron Works, in Burlington County, New Jersey, in November, 1797. He was sent, at an early age, to the city of New Brunswick, under the charge of Rev. Mr. Dunham, and from there was removed to Princeton College, where he graduated, at about the age of nineteen. He felt a most earnest desire to prepare himself for the ministry, having been early

awakened on the subject of religion, under the teaching of the Rev. Dr. Alexander.

His health became very delicate, and his physician insisted upon his renouncing a sedentary life, and travelling to a warmer climate. He spent most of his time in travelling on horseback, visiting various sections of our Southern and Southwestern States, and returned, at the age of twenty-one, with renewed and vigorous health. He then removed to this city, and commenced mercantile life, in Market Street. Shortly after his residence here, his career as a public man commenced. He was a nominee of the Independent party, in the year 1821, for the Legislature of this State; and in a few years afterwards he was nominated and elected a Senator from the city. In 1827 he was elected a member of the House of Representatives of this State, by the Democratic party.

While in the legislative councils, he offered the first resolutions making appropriations for the organization and support of public schools, of which he had always been a warm advocate. He was one of the first of the Board of Control. In 1830 he was elected Mayor of Philadelphia, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. G. M. Dallas, and in 1831 he was again elected Mayor.

His health giving way after the term of his mayoralty expired, he made a visit to Europe, and was so much pleased with the cemetery of Père la Chaise, that immediately on his return he endeavored to form an association here, so that the practice of interment in the city might be abolished. He wrote several communications for the newspapers and other periodicals on the subject; and finally, in connection with Nathan Dunn, John Jay Smith, Frederick Brown, and Isaac Collins, the property now known as the Laurel Hill Cemetery was purchased and converted into its present beautiful place of repose for the dead.

He was an early Manager of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, and one of the original and active founders of the Blind Asylum, in connection with the late and venerable John Vaughan.

He was a member of the Philosophical Society, and one of the Trustees of the University.

He was the originator and founder of the Girard Life and Trust

Company, was its first President, and remained its President until his death.

He was a religious and moral man. He was loved by his family and friends, and respected by all who knew him. His strongest feeling was benevolence; and he was ever ready, not only to give his money, but his time and his talents, for benevolent objects. His greatest virtue was his moral courage: when his conscience or his sense of right dictated a course, he would pursue it at all hazards.

He was appointed a Director of the United States Bank, by General Jackson, but resigned upon his becoming Mayor of the city. He was Mayor of the city at the death of Stephen Girard, and was one of the earliest Directors of the Girard College.

He was one of the original great advocates for public schools; and on his first success in obtaining an appropriation for them, one of the popular periodicals of the day remarked, that "thousands and thousands yet unborn will bless the name of Richards."

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## JACOB RIDGWAY.

JACOB RIDGWAY, son of John and Phebe Ridgway, of Little Egg Harbor, was born on the 18th of April, 1768, and was the youngest of five children. His parents were consistent members of the Society of Friends, his father being an Elder in the Meeting. He was between six or seven years old when his father died. His father left a good farm, besides money at interest, for each of the three sons; and a small house and lot, with three thousand dollars, to each of the daughters. The family continued to live at the homestead until the death of the mother, when the household was broken up; and Jacob, then about sixteen, came to Philadelphia, to live with his eldest sister, whose husband he had chosen as his guardian. His property was more than sufficient for his maintenance and education, and afforded a capital at last for commencing business.

He studied the wholesale dry-goods business in the store of Samuel Shaw, and succeeded him in it as partner with his son,



Thomas Shaw. Though only twenty-one, he was highly valued for his business capacity.

After a few years he withdrew from this, and went into partnership with his brother-in-law, James Smith, in a grocery, on Water Street. They continued this for some time, till, finding their funds increasing, they sold out to Joseph Pryor, and commenced the shipping business.

At that time he removed from the house of his eldest sister, and went to that of his remaining sister, Mrs. James Smith, where he resided until his marriage, which took place in the winter of 1794.

Smith & Ridgway continued as shipping merchants with great prosperity until the difficulties commenced between France and England. Their ships were seized; and it became necessary for one of the firm to reside abroad to protect their property. Mr. Ridgway then removed with his family to London, where he conducted the business of the firm, and also that of a number of other merchants. He spent much time in travelling; but finally settled at Antwerp, as Consul for the United States. He there became a partner in the firm of Mertons & Ridgway, still continuing in the firm of Smith & Ridgway, of Philadelphia. During this time he constantly sent on sums of money to be invested in real estate in Philadelphia. On his return, after several years' absence, he retired from business, finding sufficient employment in the care of his property.

It was related by his partner, as an instance of his decision and promptitude, that, while living as Consul at Antwerp, he was informed of the seizure of a vessel consigned to his care, the cargo of which was very valuable. Instantly he despatched a courier to Paris to order relays of post-horses at the different stations, collected his papers, and travelled day and night, eating and sleeping in his carriage, until he reached Paris, where he procured an interview with Bonaparte, obtained authenticated papers for the ship's release, and returned to Antwerp with the same rapidity. Before his absence had been even suspected, and just as the captors were about breaking open the cargo and dividing the spoil, much to their surprise and disappointment, he appeared among them and countermanded their proceedings, producing his papers, and taking possession of the ship. He died in the seventy-sixth year of his age, in May, 1843.

## DAVID RITTENHOUSE.

THIS gentleman, on the 3d June, 1769, observed the transit of Venus. This phenomenon was seen but twice before by an inhabitant of our earth, and could never be seen again by any person then living. This eminent philosopher and self-taught mathematician was born in Germantown, Pennsylvania, April 8th, 1732. His ancestors came from Holland. He devoted himself to the occupation of a clock and mathematical instrument maker, in which he was his own instructor. When twenty-three years of age, he planned and made an "Orrery," by which he represented the revolution of the heavenly bodies more completely than had ever been done before. This masterpiece of mechanism was purchased by the College of Princeton, New Jersey. He made another for the College of Philadelphia. June 3d, 1769, he observed, in the township of Norriton, the transit of Venus; and, on the 9th November following, he observed the transit of Mercury. In the year 1770 he removed to Philadelphia. He filled a number of appointments with great honor and fidelity, particularly that of Treasurer of Pennsylvania, from 1777 to 1789; and that of Director of the Mint of the United States, which he resigned in 1795, owing to ill-health. Above all, he was a sincere and firm believer in the Christian revelation. He died on the 26th June, 1796, in his sixty-fifth year, greatly lamented and respected.

From the age of twenty to twenty-five, his time during the day was actively employed upon his labors; while the nights, or his idle hours, as he called the time for sleep, was devoted to study. A genius of such superior order could not long remain in obscurity. The fame of his "Orrery" spread far and wide. Several gentlemen, among whom were his brother-in-law, the Rev. Dr. Barton, Dr. Smith, and an ingenious mathematician, named John Lukens, appreciating more fully his talents, united in inviting him to take up his residence in Philadelphia, where his opportunities for acquiring knowledge and fame would be enlarged. Yielding, not without reluctance, he removed to that city in the year 1770,

where he continued to manufacture mathematical instruments, which were acknowledged to be superior to any imported.

In 1791, he was elected to fill the chair of President of the American Philosophical Society, vacant by the death of Dr. Franklin. His attachment to the Society was evinced by a donation of the sum of three hundred pounds. His house and style of living exhibited the taste of a philosopher, the simplicity of a republican, and the temper of a Christian. His mind was his fortune. Avarice found no place in a breast which could calculate the stars, and estimate, at its true value, the fleetness of time and the length of eternity. Happy, indeed, is that family, where such just ideas prevail; there content waits upon cheerfulness, and the hope of immortality fortifies against the fear of death.

The phenomenon of the transit of Veuus, on the 3d June, 1769, had such an effect upon our young star-gazer, as to cause a state of mental excitement and solicitude. The sun of that day rose without a cloud; the moment of observation came: the great event occurred as Rittenhouse predicted, and so excited was he at the circumstance, that in the instant of one of the contacts of the planet with the sun, he actually fainted with emotion. His report of the event was received with satisfaction by the learned and scientific everywhere, and acquired him an extended and great reputation. Thomas Jefferson succeeded him as President of the Philosophical Society, who said of him, "We have supposed Rittenhouse second to no astronomer living; that in genius he must be the first, because he is self-taught. As an artist, he has exhibited as great a proof of mechanical genius as the world ever produced. He has not indeed made a world; but he has, by imitation, approached nearer his Maker than any mere man who has lived from the creation to this day."

## JACOB RITTER, JR.

JACOB RITTER, JR., son of Jacob and Elizabeth Ritter, was born January 2, 1784. Having a taste and natural talents for mercantile pursuits, he entered the shipping-house of Abraham Piesch, for whom he embarked as supercargo in 1801, then only in his seventeenth year. He made three voyages to the West Indies, respectively to the islands of St. Bartholomew, St. Thomas, and Guadeloupe; one to Surinam, South America, and two to the East Indies. On these voyages he encountered much difficulty with vessels of foreign nations, at that time at variance with the United States, in which engagements his actions displayed great valor and patriotism. He took a lively interest in the political affairs of our country, adhering to the doctrine of "Principles, not Men," as inculcated by Thomas Jefferson. On the 28th December, 1832, he met with a serious accident in the dislocation of the thigh, which being irreparable caused great suffering and a sedentary life of eight years. As a merchant, he was successful in his career, yet withal retiring in his deportment, humble, and unostentatious; a consistent and exemplary member of the communion of that branch of the Church known as "The United Brethren;" in which faith he died, June 27th, 1840, in the fifty-seventh year of his age.

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## ISAAC ROACH.

ISAAC ROACH, a distinguished officer in the army of the United States, was born in Philadelphia County, February 24th, 1786. In 1812 he was commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the Second Regiment of United States Artillery; and, on the night of the succeeding 8th October, gave evidence of high martial talents and courage, under Lieutenant Elliott of the navy, in his attack on the British brigs Caledonia and Detroit. A few days after this engage-

ment, he was present at the battle of Queenstown Heights, where he was wounded. In May, 1813, he was promoted to the rank of Captain in the Thirty-third Regiment of Infantry; and, in command of a piece of artillery, on the 27th of the same month, formed a part of the advanced guard in the capture of Fort George, when he was again wounded. On the 24th of June following, he held his position at the Beaver Dams, for several hours, against a greatly superior force, which he repeatedly repulsed; but toward the close of the day he was obliged, through the imbecility of his commanding officer, to surrender. In 1815 he was transferred to the Artillery; in 1823, received the brevet of Major; and in 1824, resigned his commission. In 1838 Major Roach was elected Mayor of the city of Philadelphia, and some time afterward was appointed Treasurer of the Mint. He died December 29th, 1848, aged sixty-two years.

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## JAMES B. ROGERS, M.D.

BY JOSEPH CARSON, M.D.

JAMES B. ROGERS, late Professor of Chemistry in the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, was born in the city of Philadelphia, on the 22d of February, A.D. 1803.

He was the eldest son of Dr. Patrick Kerr Rogers, who, at an early age, emigrated to this country in 1791. Soon after his arrival, the youthful emigrant was employed as an usher, in the literary department of the University of Pennsylvania; but his inclinations directed him towards the medical profession; and, having pursued his studies in the office of Professor Barton, he graduated, as Doctor of Medicine, in 1802. The thesis which he presented was an experimental one, of the chemical and medicinal properties of the *Liriodendron tulipifera*. In 1819 he was appointed Professor of Natural Philosophy and Chemistry, in William and Mary College, at Williamsburg, Virginia.

The subject of our notice, after having concluded his preliminary



education at William and Mary College, entered upon the systematic study of Medicine. His studies were conducted in Baltimore; and, enrolling himself as a pupil of the University of Maryland, whose reputation at the time was maintained and extended by the names of Potter, Davidge, Baker, and De Butts, in 1822 he received the honors of the institution. His thesis was upon Epilepsy.

In 1840 he took up his abode in Philadelphia, his native city, which continued to be his home until his decease.

After removing to Philadelphia, he was first occupied in rendering that assistance to his brother, Henry D. Rogers, the geologist of the State of Pennsylvania, which he had done in Virginia, and was engaged in the field as well as in the laboratory. His leisure seasons were employed in giving private instruction to medical students in the form of recapitulatory lectures and examinations. In 1841, the changes which occurred in the Philadelphia Medical Institute opened the way for the more prominent exhibition of his powers as a lecturer in this community. He was chosen to succeed Professor J. K. Mitchell, who for many years had been distinguished for his interesting and attractive mode of teaching chemistry. In this position, expectation was not disappointed, and henceforth Dr. Rogers was regarded as worthy the highest position pertaining to his branch.

In 1847, while connected with the Franklin College, a new and promising institution to which he had contributed strength, the chair of Chemistry in the University of Pennsylvania became vacant by the resignation of Professor Hare, and he became the successor of the same eminent individual to whom his father had succeeded twenty-eight years previously.

But the wear of life was making inroads on his constitution; and with a full conviction of his condition, with Christian hope, he yielded up his spirit without a struggle, on June 15th, 1852.







## JAMES RONALDSON.

JAMES RONALDSON died at Philadelphia, March 31st, 1841, aged upwards of sixty years. He was a native of Scotland, and one of the largest type-founders in the United States, and a great horticulturist. The beautiful cemetery bearing his name was established by him. He was an upright, frugal, and honest man, a sincere friend of Andrew Jackson, and a lover of his adopted country. He was never married.

Mr. Ronaldson's Cemetery was laid out in 1831. It is situated between Ninth and Tenth Streets, in the southwest section of the city, and he deserves respect for his memory, and much credit as the pioneer in this laudable enterprise. He laid out this cemetery on a square belonging to himself, several years before that of Laurel Hill was commenced, and it now contains a large number of splendid tombs, with appropriate trees, and adorned with flowers and shrubbery. In speaking of his original plan, he said, "he wanted to erect within the inclosure of the Philadelphia Cemetery a dwelling-house for the keeper or gravedigger on one side of the gate, and on the other side, a house uniform with the gravedigger's; this house to have a room, provided with a stove, couch, &c., into which persons dying suddenly might be laid, and the string of a bell put into their hand, so that if there should be any motion of returning life, the alarm bell might be rung, the keeper alarmed, and medical help procured."

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## BENJAMIN RUSH, M.D.

BENJAMIN RUSH was born on his father's farm, in Byberry Township, Philadelphia County, on the 24th of December, 1745. His grandfather, John Rush, commanded a troop of horse in the army of Oliver Cromwell; and, on the restoration of the monarchy, emigrated to Pennsylvania, in 1683. He had been personally known



to the Protector. "One day, seeing his horse come into the camp without him, Cromwell supposed he had been killed, and lamented him by saying, 'He had not left a better officer behind him.'" The Bible, watch, and sword, which he owned, are still in the possession of his descendants in Pennsylvania. He settled on the farm already mentioned, and died at the age of about eighty. No lengthened account of the parentage of Dr. Rush is deemed necessary to a brief narrative like the present.

Having finished his preparatory course of the Latin and Greek languages, Dr. Rush was sent, in the fourteenth year of his age, to Princeton College, then under the Presidency of the Rev. Mr. Davies. He received, at that institution, the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1760, before he had completed his fifteenth year. He next commenced the study of medicine in Philadelphia, under the direction of Dr. John Redman, an eminent physician. In 1766, having passed through the elementary studies in medicine, he went to Edinburgh, at that time the most esteemed medical school of Europe, where he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine. His thesis, by the custom of the school, was written in the Latin language.

From Edinburgh, Dr. Rush went to London, where he passed the winter of 1768, attending the hospitals and medical lectures of that metropolis.

The succeeding summer he devoted to his improvement in Paris; and returned, in the autumn of the same year, to his native country. He fixed his residence at Philadelphia, and at once began the practice of his profession. In 1769, he was elected Professor of Chemistry in the College of Philadelphia. In 1789, he succeeded, in the same institution, to the chair of the Theory and Practice of Medicine, vacated by the death of Dr. John Morgan. In 1791, the College having been elevated to the University of Pennsylvania, he was elected, in this latter establishment, Professor of the Institutes and Practice of Medicine and Clinical Practice. In 1796, he received, on the resignation of Dr. Kuhn, the additional Professorship of the Practice of Physic, which he held with the two preceding branches, though they required much laborious application, until the end of his life.

As a lecturer, Dr. Rush's manner was most agreeable and im-

pressive. When Dr. Rush began to lecture in the University of Pennsylvania, his medical class in that institution consisted of about twenty students; in the winter of 1812, thirteen; at the last course he delivered they amounted to four hundred and thirty. He was, for many years, one of the physicians of the Pennsylvania Hospital.

Dr. Rush, in person, was above the middle size, slender, and well proportioned. All his biographers have described his appearance as dignified and pleasing.

In the undiminished vigor of his mental faculties, in the fullest season of his activity, prosperity, and value, he was seized with an epidemic, termed typhus fever, then prevalent in Philadelphia, and died in this city, after a few days' illness, on the 19th April, 1813, in the sixty-ninth year of his age. He was buried in Christ Church graveyard.

The services of Dr. Rush, before and during the War of the Revolution, were conspicuous and valuable. He wrote indefatigably in favor of American independence; and signed the memorable charter of his country's freedom, the Declaration of American Independence.

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## JACOB RUSH, LL.D.

JUDGE RUSH was a brother of Dr. Benjamin Rush, and was born in 1746; graduated at Princeton College in 1765; and was, for many years, President of the Court of Common Pleas for Philadelphia, where he died, January 5th, 1820, aged seventy-four years. In the controversy between Dickinson and Read, he was an able writer on the side of the former. He published his "Charges on Moral and Religious Subjects," Philadelphia, 1803. He was a patriot of the Revolution; and, in its darkest days, stood firm to its principles and his country.

## WILLIAM RUSH.

WILLIAM RUSH was born in Philadelphia, July 4th, 1756. His father was a ship-carpenter. From his youth he was fond of ships, and used, when a boy, to pass his time in the garret, in cutting out ships from blocks of wood, and to exercise himself in drawing figures in chalk and paints. When of a proper age, he followed his inclination in engaging his term of apprenticeship with Edward Cutbush, from London, the then best carver of his day. He was a man of spirited execution, but inharmonious proportions. Walking attitudes were then unknown; but all rested astride the cut-water. When Rush first saw, on a foreign vessel, a walking figure, he instantly conceived the design of more tasteful and graceful figures than had been before executed. He instantly surpassed his master; and having once opened his mind to the contemplation and study of such attitudes and figures as he saw in nature, he was very soon enabled to surpass all his former performances. Then his figures began to excite admiration in foreign ports. The figure of the "Indian Trader" to the ship William Penn (the Trader was dressed in Indian habiliments), excited great admiration in London. The carvers there would come in boats and lay near the ship, and sketch designs from it. They even came to take casts of plaster-of-Paris from the head. This was directly after the Revolution, when she was commanded by Captain Josiah. When he carved a river god as the figure for the ship Ganges, the Hindoos came off in numerous boats to pay their admiration, and perhaps reverence, to the various emblems in the trail of the image. On one occasion, the house of Nicklin & Griffiths actually had orders from England to Rush (fifty years and more ago), to carve two figures for two ships building there. One was a female personation of Commerce. The duties in that case cost more than the first cost of the images themselves! A fine Indian figure, in Rush's best style, might be preserved in some public edifice for centuries to come; even as he carved the full statue of Washington for the

Academy of Arts, making the figure hollow in the trunk and limbs, to add to its durability.

The figures of Tragedy and Comedy, carved by Mr. Rush, now in the possession of Edwin Forrest, are in a wonderful state of preservation.

William Rush was often selected a member of the City Councils, and was a public-spirited man. He entered Washington's army in the earliest part of the struggle for independence, and was honored with high favor from the Commander-in-chief during the war. His profession, on giving up a soldier's life, was, as we have before said, that of a sculptor in wood, and he attained to the highest eminence in the same, executing many beautiful works, principally among which is the full-length statue of Washington, in Independence Hall. The city honored him with a position, we repeat, in her Councils, as a member, which he filled with distinction for more than a quarter of a century. Mr. Rush died, January 27th, 1833.

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## PHŒBE ANN RUSH.

MRS. RUSH, daughter of Jacob Ridgway, died 1857, aged about sixty years. She was one of the most remarkable and brilliant women this country ever produced; and hence we feel at liberty to speak of her now, with more than the usual freedom allowed upon the demise of a lady. Highly educated in early life, and with a mind constantly improved by earnest study, she was not only well versed in all the modern languages of Europe, and its literature, but she spoke these languages well, and discussed their authors and *savans* with a clearness of analysis and a beauty of conception that made her society charming to intelligent and cultivated men in all the professions of life, whether men of science, clergymen, lawyers, physicians, or journalists. To this general knowledge, which was far from superficial, she added an intimate and personal knowledge of men and women most distinguished in Europe, twenty years ago; and a topographical knowledge of the greater part of Europe, from Spain and Italy to Russia, their scenery

and their arts. Her powers of conversation, gifted as she was highly by nature, were great; and thus, with intelligent minds, she was able to create an intellectual fascination, that ever made her the centre of a brilliant circle. To her own sex she was not so attractive, because it was with men that her mind most had sympathy; but with them, whenever she took the trouble, she was as popular as with ours. Her heart was full of charity and kindness, as of our own knowledge the writer of this can bear personal testimony; but her own sex will, perhaps, deny the fact, because they seldom had opportunity to know it. She was thus a good, but not what the world will call a pious, woman. Her personal friends will deeply mourn her death, and long cherish hers as a brilliant memory.

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## RICHARD RUSH.

AMONG the citizens of Philadelphia, who, in after times, will hold a distinguished place in the list of American statesmen, when their lives and characters, both public and private, are viewed by impartial history, it is perhaps not saying too much, that the subject of the following memoir will be found very prominent.

He was the second son of the celebrated Dr. Benjamin Rush. To have been brought up by his father, was to be well educated; for his communicative temper and habits made him a preceptor, continually imparting to those around him the patriotism, philanthropy, morals, learning, manners, industry, and emulation, of which he was an example as well as teacher.

Richard Rush was born in Philadelphia, on the 29th of August, 1780. After having been at the usual preparatory schools, he was entered in the college at Princeton, at the age of fourteen, at which institution his father, and maternal grandfather, Richard Stockton, of New Jersey, had both been educated, both of whom were signers of the Declaration of Independence. During his college life, he lived, in part, at the house of his grandmother, Mrs. Stockton, then living in Princeton,—known in her day for her literary attainments, and who wrote those patriotic stanzas beginning, “Welcome, mighty



chief, once more!" sung by young ladies of Trenton, when strewing flowers before General Washington, at the 'Triumphal Arch in that town, in 1789,—stanzas that Marshall has made, in some measure, historic, by giving them a place in his account of Washington's memorable journey from Mount Vernon, on going to New York to be installed as President.

At college, though but little addicted to hard study, he was fond of debate and public speaking, for which intellectual exercises he early exhibited the germs of future excellence. He took his degree in the autumn of 1797, being the youngest in a class of thirty-three. Immediately upon his graduation, he commenced the study of the law, in the office of William Lewis, Esq., then one of the leaders of the Philadelphia Bar.

The year following, the whole country was in a state of martial excitement, under the wrongs and insults of France. The youth of the country poured in their addresses to the President, Mr. Adams, with a tender of their services in case of war; and young Rush, then seventeen years of age, did not hold back from the general feeling, though he was *not* of "MacPherson's Blues." This fervor of the country did not last long; neither invasion or war having followed, except partial hostilities with France upon the ocean, where, as usual, our flag was triumphant. Towards the latter part of his time with Mr. Lewis, he gave himself up to close study, and was admitted to the Bar in December, 1800, when but little over twenty. His habits were at this period formed to laborious self-discipline and culture. During the six or seven years that followed, being still a member of his father's family, and having little practice in his profession, he did not cease his devotion to study, making the night "joint laborer with the day," and although of a robust and strong constitution, endangering his health by the intensity of his application. The law, history, ancient and modern literature, government, the orators, the poets,—these were the fields into which he went, reading the best authors. He formed, at this time, that intellectual habit, so effective in the acquisition and retention of knowledge, and so beneficial to the mind itself, of digesting by reflection all that he read. Every volume received the full power of his attention. Important facts or thoughts were recalled, and entered, in his own language, in commonplace books, and a

short criticism and opinion passed upon many of them when finished.

Nor among the other studies which engrossed at this period the industrious energies of his mind, was that of politics forgotten, although he took no active part in them at this period of his life. If his personal and professional associates were the Federalists of Philadelphia, he had deeply imbibed from his father in early life the Republican principles of Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Madison. The former, in the beautiful letter, published among his works, which he wrote on religion to Dr. Rush, in 1803, begins by saying; "In some of my delightful conversations with you in the evenings of 1798-9 (the black cockade days), and which served as an antidote to the afflictions of the crisis through which our country was then laboring, the Christian religion was our topic."\* It was from such fountains the son took in political principles which throughout his life emphatically governed him.

The first political meeting which he ever attended was one held in the State-House Yard, in Philadelphia, in 1807, on the occasion of the attack by the British on our frigate Chesapeake. He had, up to this time, been known only as an ambitious and extremely studious young member of the Bar. He made an animated and vigorous speech on the subject of the wrongs we had received from England generally, and of this last outrage in particular. It was received with the warmest applause, and introduced him most favorably to the Republican party. Hitherto known but little as a public speaker, he was now looked upon as destined to eminence in this field. The year following brought him for the first time into professional notice. In 1808, in a speech that occupied the principal part of the day, he defended the editor of "The Aurora," Colonel Duane, who was prosecuted by the commonwealth for a

\* During the black cockade days, Cobbett, then the great leader of the Federal press in the United States, under the name of "Peter Porcupine," put Dr. Rush on his proscriptive list with Mr. Jefferson, avowedly on the ground of his Republican principles. The latter he used to call "Tom the Devil;" the former he alternately ridiculed as a quack, and denounced as a murderer. Such was the treatment that our most illustrious citizens received at the hands of this British renegado and Federal favorite in the days of Federal supremacy. Dr. Rush in a beautiful eulogium pronounced on Mr. Rittenhouse, had expatiated on his Republican principles; which, when Cobbett read, he exclaimed, "I'll mark him for that," and the venom of his press was accordingly poured without measure upon him.

libel upon Governor McKean. This speech endeared him very much to his Democratic fellow-citizens. There was a soundness in its political doctrines, and an eloquent fearlessness in its whole character, that seemed to entrench him at once in their warm affections. As an incident illustrative of the effect produced upon the friends of Colonel Duane by Mr. Rush's powerful appeal for his client, it may be stated, that one of the oldest Democrats who heard it, embraced him when he concluded, and took him up in his arms, while loud plaudits were heard throughout the courtroom. After this speech, business at the Bar poured in upon him rapidly.

At the succeeding Congressional election, that patriarch of the Democratic party in those days, and friend of Mr. Jefferson, Thomas Leiper,\* together with Colonel Duane and Dr. Leib, called on Mr. Rush and asked him to allow his name to be placed among the candidates for Congress; but he declined, being intent upon his profession. He continued to receive ever afterwards manifestations of attachment and confidence from these and other champions of the Democratic cause. Public bodies in Philadelphia, composed of Democrats, now spontaneously made him their counsel and solicitor, as the Board of Health, the Guardians of the Poor, and other Democratic functionaries of the Northern Liberties. In January, 1811, Governor Snyder appointed him Attorney-General of Pennsylvania. His practice was now increasing daily. In the spring of this year, a misunderstanding between Mr. Peter A. Brown, of the Philadelphia Bar, and himself, led to a duel: neither party received any injury, and it was to the credit of both that the event did not interrupt the courtesy of their subsequent intercourse. Mr. Rush fired in the air. As Attorney-General of Pennsylvania, he was necessarily brought into much intercourse and correspondence with Governor Snyder and the public men of the State, the esteem and confidence of all of whom, as well as of the members of the Legislature in his visits to the seat of government, he gained in a high degree. At this point of time, and a little earlier, national

\* Mr. Jefferson was heard to say, that the tables of Dr. Rush, Major Butler, of South Carolina, and Mr. Leiper, were the only ones in Philadelphia to which he was ever invited during those days of Federal persecution; and that the Federalists used to cross the streets to avoid him.

politics had grown to be of intense interest. Mr. Rush's prominence in the State, and his confessed abilities, brought him to the view of the national government. In 1811, President Madison selected him to succeed Judge Duval as Controller of the Treasury of the United States, when there was but one Controller; an office, which as then organized, required eminently the exercise of legal talents. This appointment was entirely unexpected and unsolicited by Mr. Rush. He had married two years previously Miss Catharine Eliza Murray, daughter of Dr. James Murray, of Annapolis, Maryland, one of whose sisters, the wife of General Mason, resided in Washington; personal considerations, therefore, as well as public, induced him to accept it. The friendship between his father and Mr. Madison was a good passport to the kind dispositions of the latter towards him on his first arrival in Washington; and it was his good fortune to gain the esteem and friendship of that great and good man, and to have been honored with his confidence ever afterwards. From that time, the life of Richard Rush must be nearly the history of his country for half a century, for perhaps no American citizen has ever been so continuously engaged in its public events. In 1812, war was declared against England, in the conduct of whose arduous and invidious concerns the President experienced in Mr. Rush a most faithful and useful coadjutor. Though not a member of what it has become common to call the Presidential Cabinet, he was taken into the intimate counsels of Mr. Madison and Mr. Monroe, Secretary of State (by the exigencies of the contest called upon to perform the duties of acting Secretary of War), and by constancy, superior intelligence, and indefatigable devotion as a volunteer to the belligerent, and as official incumbent to the fiscal exigencies of those days of great trial, Mr. Rush made a deep and lasting impression on the esteem of such statesmen and patriots as Madison and Monroe, and of Alexander James Dallas, who, mainly through Mr. Rush's instrumentality, was associated with them as Secretary of the Treasury, toward the conclusion of that crisis. The columns of "The National Intelligencer" and of "The Democratic Press" of Pennsylvania, two of the journals most prominent and efficient in furtherance of the war, shone with the strong light of Mr. Rush's continual contributions to sustain the severe struggle for free trade and sailors' rights, in



which the United States, after terrible reverses and mortifications, finally triumphed by the British and universal recognition of rights which have since that concession of them been enjoyed during nearly half a century's profound peace and uninterrupted prosperity, with the certainty of being never again hostilely questioned. Inflexible in their support and excellent in their vindication, Mr. Rush was among those foremost to secure the national advantages which the best sailors in the world and some of the best soldiers were encouraged by his patriotic insistence to champion to the uttermost.

Relegated in the then almost uninhabited and dismal solitude of the metropolitan wilderness, the second war of independence testified so strongly to Mr. Rush's sterling worth that, before it was concluded, President Madison tendered him his choice of either the Treasury Department or the Attorney-Generalship, vacated by the resignations of George W. Campbell and William Pinkney. Mr. Rush preferred to be Attorney-General. While in this post, he superintended the publication of "The Laws of the Nation," in four volumes, forming the edition of 1815. This work is valuable to the lawyer, to the historian, and to the general scholar; and the manner in which Mr. Rush discharged his responsible duties entitles him to a high place in the list of legislators. But, without officiating in that place more than a session or two of the Supreme Court of the United States, he was selected for the most important foreign station in the bestowal of a President of the United States, to succeed John Quincy Adams as Minister in England. Sailing in the autumn of 1817, on board the new ship-of-the-line the Franklin, commanded by Commodore Stewart, he was introduced to the British Cabinet, of which Lord Castlereagh was Secretary for Foreign Affairs; and, during seven years' residence near the Court of St. James, upheld with dignity, and patriotic but inoffensive tenacity, the multifarious, and at times precarious, relations of his country with that mighty empire, our kinsfolks, rivals, and most intimate correspondents. Mr. Rush was, at that time, thirty-seven years of age.

Difficult treaties were negotiated by him there; one concerning the much-disputed Northwestern Territory; another, the Northeastern Fisheries; in which negotiations he was brought into con-



tact and controversy, but without collision, with Castlereagh, Canning, Huskisson, the present Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, and others of the most gifted British statesmen, with all of whom, as well as a large circle of royal, literary, and radical acquaintances, from the Duke of Sussex to Jeremy Bentham, Mr. Rush lived on terms of social harmony. During his residence there and afterwards he witnessed no less than three devolutions of the British throne,—from George the Third to George the Fourth, from him to William the Fourth, and from him to the Queen now reigning.

Mr. Adams, succeeding Mr. Monroe as President, brought Mr. Rush home to serve as Secretary of the Treasury, during the most economical and least office-changing of all our Presidencies, in which he was associated with Mr. Clay as Secretary of State, Mr. Wirt as Attorney-General, and executed the arduous and invidious functions of head of the Treasury with characteristic assiduity, perfect independence, and the uttermost integrity. Going out of office with the Adams administration, Mr. Rush was sent by the cities of Georgetown and Alexandria to solicit a loan for them in England and Holland, which he effected to their entire satisfaction.

President Jackson employed him, together with Benjamin C. Howard, Esq., to adjust the uncomfortable dispute as to boundaries between the States of Ohio and Michigan; and President Van Buren availed himself of Mr. Rush's English experience and facilities to realize the five hundred thousand dollars bequeathed by Mr. Smithson for the diffusion of knowledge in this country; from which fund, after considerable delay and some difficulty, the Smithsonian Institute was endowed, and is now in successful operation. Mr. Rush, by the votes of Congress, has, from that time to the period of his death, been regularly and unanimously appointed a Regent of that institution. These two European visits renewed Mr. Rush's acquaintance with many of the most respectable and influential English, confirming that hold in their respect and regard which he has always enjoyed.

After living several years in retirement from all public employments, and declining some suggestions of its literary adaptation, he was quite unexpectedly commissioned by President Polk to follow William R. King in the post filled by Jefferson, Monroe, the two brothers Livingston, Gallatin, and other eminent personages, in

the mission to France; in which situation it was his fortune to witness the Revolution of 1848, which, overthrowing the French King, spread all over Germany, Italy, and other parts of Europe, with convulsive developments. Mr. Rush was the first foreign Minister to recognize the French Government, which then held out for a brief interval; and among the first to pay official respect to the present Emperor of the French as President of a short-lived Republic.

During the distressing illness which for several months preceded his departure at last without a struggle, a strong constitution sustained with equanimity pain without repining. All his arrangements for death were made with composure. He anticipated and met his last hour with the firmness and hope of a Christian. Surrounded by the children, with whom, cultivated as companions, Richard Rush lived long in delightful intimacy, he calmly left this world for a better, on the 30th July, 1859, when within less than a month of seventy-nine years. Mrs. Rush, for forty years his constant counsellor, with every domestic affection uniting all the social attractions, a few years ago preceded her husband to the grave.

The death of Richard Rush was very widely noticed in this country and in England, where his long official residence of nearly eight years, and the subsequent publication of his "Memoranda," a work in two volumes, and which went through two editions, had made him widely known.

As characteristic of his personal qualities, nothing more graphic could be given, than an extract from a communication from the Hon. Henry D. Gilpin, addressed to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, at its stated meeting, when the death of this eminent man (a member of that body) was communicated. Mr. Gilpin, one of the Vice-Presidents, being unable from ill health to attend the meeting, sent to the Society a paper containing some remarks, which he would have desired to make, if present. The extract is as follows:—

"Never, since I have been connected with the Society, has it fallen to my lot to mourn with more sincere distress the loss of a fellow-member. Yet the event should not be regarded as a cause of sorrow: Mr. Rush had but passed the inevitable portal, to which we are all tending, after a long life of unsullied probity, great public useful-

ness, the cultivation and enjoyment of refined literary taste, and a deportment sincere, generous, and urbane in every social relation. Still, we feel that a link has been struck from the chain of grateful associations.

“For myself, I do not approach the subject without feelings which are independent of his merit, in the light of which the world and history will judge him. For me, a long vista is closed of generous friendship; of stores of knowledge poured out; of manly truths, mildly but resolutely communicated; of a social nature ever genial; and a hospitality, simple but ever generous. By those who enjoyed the twenty years of his intercourse at Sydenham, can its charms ever be forgotten? Can they fail to recall the feast of reason and the flow of soul, by which a refined nature doubles every charm of friendship? I recall the low-walled ancestral cottage, shaded by its ancient trees, and remember how books and works of art adorned them, and especially the memorial gifts of friends, which added peculiar objects of association.

“The step and bannister brought from Milton’s house and inserted in his own staircase; volumes with some kindly notice from Rogers or Campbell, or Hallam or Lyttleton; the pictures of statesmen of letters, both in England and in France, tokens of their regard; all these seemed justly to augment his natural desire to linger to the last in the homestead which he had inherited, until the progress of the vast encroaching city took from it the last vestige of rural tranquillity. There must be many of those here assembled who can remember his venerable figure, as the summer evening closed, standing upon the last step of the cottage portico, to wave them his courteous adieu,—the words of his conversation lingered on the ear of his retiring guest, as the wise and mild lessons of the aged Nestor dwelt in the heart of the parting Telemachus.”

Mr. Gilpin’s paper reviewed at large, and with the pen of a statesman, Mr. Rush’s public career. He added: “One feature remains to be noticed. His literary ability was superior. He loved habitually the best English authors. He was careful in the formation of his style. His mind was richly stored, perhaps beyond any of his cotemporaries, with the minute history of the men and times among which he lived. His judgment of individual cha-

racter was less obscured by prejudice than is usual among politicians who lived through stormy times. If he could ever err in accuracy in regard to events, it was from no want of an anxious search for truth, which he possessed excellent opportunities to ascertain. In his opinions on public measures it would be vain to say that all his judgments could be right; but they were always conscientious."

Mr. Gilpin's memoir was, by a unanimous resolution, entered on the records, with an expression of the Society's deep regret at the loss of their venerable and distinguished member.

Mr. Rush, though devoted to letters, was a man of affairs. He appeared as an author but once, when he published his "Memoranda of a Residence at the Court of London." That work was eminently successful. It has been before the public more than a quarter of a century, and has taken its place as a standard library book. The authenticity of its record has never been questioned. Its style is chaste and vigorous. Recalling the private scenes and public questions of his mission in the days of George the Fourth, now forty years ago, it is a valuable addition to the authentic diplomatic literature of that day.

It will be seen from the foregoing sketch that the most continuous portion of Mr. Rush's public life was as a diplomatist. His habitual self-discipline, large attainments, calm judgment, and high personal qualities, eminently marked him for this department of the public service. "The Edinburgh Review" of 1833, in an article upon the "Memoranda," speaks thus of him: "The spirit of a conventional body would not have improved Mr. Rush's private journal; and the public portion of his memoirs is ample proof that America was not allowed to lose anything from an ignorance of the mysteries of the craft. Intelligence, firmness, and straightforwardness are a guard which no politic fencing-masters can disarm. Violence and subtlety are the opposite besetting sins of practical diplomacy. Jefferson's temper drove him to draw too soon, with the sword's point, the categorical Roman circle, within which the adverse negotiator was to return his answer. Franklin and Gallatin betray more of the faulty characteristics of the Italian school." Thus, by high English authority, was this eminent Philadelphian brought into contrast, as a diplomatic representative, with Jefferson, Franklin, and Gallatin.



Mr. Rush was about the ordinary height ; his carriage was erect ; his countenance thoughtful, though lighting up in conversation ; his eye a deep expressive blue, quick and penetrating. He was generous in friendship, affectionate in heart and temper, and singularly fearless and truthful. He appreciated the gentleness and constancy of family ties ; was always charitable in his opinions of men ; with an impulse ever to protect the weak. He had strong feelings, but practised an habitual self-restraint, which rendered his life tranquil, and diffused happiness to the social and domestic circle, where he was invariably cheerful and instructive and thoughtful of others ; and in which a remarkable memory, drawing upon recollections of large intercourse with men and books, gave the charm of rich and varied anecdote to his conversation.

His colloquial talents were very remarkable, and his manner eminently distinguished. In the foreign service of his country, in London and Paris, he openly refused to recognize party. In home politics he was never blinded by it. His career may be held up to the youth and to the rising statesmen of the nation as one to be advantageously studied.

A notice of this distinguished man, which appeared in a Boston paper at the time of his death, thus sums up his character : " He was a diplomatist and statesman, a jurist, a scholar, and a writer ; and he was of the first class in every one of these pursuits. The country will sincerely regret the death of one whose name carries the reader back to Jefferson's time, and who was associated with a generation of great men, all of whom have passed away, and whom he has gone to join, after a long, pure, and useful life ; in the course of which he wronged no one, but bore himself as if conscious that he was responsible for the proper discharge of the talents intrusted to him. His name will have a high place in American history, and will figure there with equal honor, whether the historian shall write of our politics or our literature."



## JOHN SANDERSON.

JOHN SANDERSON, the author of the lively sketches of French society in that attractive book, "The American in Paris," was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Carlisle, in 1783. He first studied the classics (favorite passages of which, at the close of his life, he interwove in his essays with happy effect) with a clergyman of his region, travelling some seven miles from home daily for his instruction. In 1806, he studied law at Philadelphia; but, requiring a means of immediate support, became a teacher in the Clermont Seminary, afterwards marrying the daughter of the Principal, John S. Carré, and becoming a partner in the enterprise. He contributed to "The Portfolio," and wrote occasionally for "The Aurora." The portion of "The Lives of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence," published in 1820, were written by himself and his brother. Our author's share of this work was the composition of the first and second volumes. In 1833, he defended his favorite classical literature, as a branch of study, in the letters signed "Roberjot," directed against a plan of education proposed for the Girard College. His health failing, he embarked for Havre in the summer of 1835, and remained in Paris nearly a year, writing the series of descriptive papers which he afterwards published in 1838, entitled, "Sketches of Paris; in Familiar Letters to his Friends. By an American Gentleman." He also visited England before his return, of which he commenced a similar account in several papers in "The Knickerbocker Magazine."

Returning to America, he taught the Greek and Latin languages in the Philadelphia High-School. Though broken in health, he maintained a habit of cheerfulness, exercising his talent in humor and sarcasm. Griswold, who saw him in his last days, speaks of his mirth, and tenderness, and fondness for his daughter, and his cherished recollections of his departed wife. He died at Philadelphia, April 5th, 1844.

## THOMAS SAY.

MR. SAY was born in Philadelphia, July 27th, 1787. He was the son of Dr. Benjamin Say, a druggist, who introduced him into the same business with his friend, Speakman. By injudicious indorsements, the partnership became involved, and the business brought to a close. Mr. Say afterwards became Curator of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. His simple habits of life, while thus occupied, are pleasantly described by Dr. Ruschenberger:—

“He resided in the Hall of the Academy, where he made his bed beneath a skeleton of a horse, and fed himself on bread and milk; occasionally he cooked a chop, or boiled an egg; but he was wont to regard eating as an inconvenient interruption to scientific pursuits, and often expressed a wish that he had been made with a hole in his side, in which he might deposit, from time to time, the quantity of food requisite for his nourishment. He lived in this manner several years, during which time his food did not cost, on an average, more than twelve cents a day.”

In 1818, Mr. Say joined Messrs. Maclure, Ord, and Peale, in a scientific exploration of the islands and coast of Georgia. They visited East Florida for the same purpose; but their progress to the interior was arrested by the hostilities between the people of the United States and the Indians. In 1819–20, he accompanied, as chief geologist, the expedition headed by Major Long to the Rocky Mountains; and, in 1823, to the sources of the St. Peter's River and adjoining country. In 1825, he removed, with Maclure and Owen, to the New Harmony settlement. He remained, after the separation of his two associates, as agent of the property, and died of a fever, October 10th, 1834.

His chief work is his “American Entomology,” published at Philadelphia, in three beautifully illustrated octavo volumes, by S. A. Mitchell, in 1824–5. He also commenced a work on “American Conchology,” six numbers of which were published before his



*Am. Scott*



death. He was also a frequent contributor to the *Journal of the Academy*, and other similar periodicals. His discoveries in Entomology are said to have probably been greater than those ever made by any single individual.

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## JOHN M. SCOTT.

If any one, whose tastes lead to genealogical inquiries, will turn to page 876 of "*Burke's Peerage and Baronetage*," edition of 1846, he will find an account, carried back to the year 1128, of the lineage of Sir John Scott, Baronet, of Ancrum, county Roxburg, Scotland, who died in 1712.

The second son of this Sir John Scott bore the same name. He came to this country; received the rights of citizenship of the city of New York, in 1702; and was afterwards commandant of Fort Hunter, on the river Mohawk, in the present county of Schoharie. He had nine children.

The eldest of these nine children was also named John Scott. He married Marian Morin, a daughter of Peter Morin, and died in 1733. He left one child, viz., John Morin Scott, who was a witty, eloquent, and able lawyer of the city of New York, a member of the old Congress of the United States, and an ardent patriot of the revolutionary era. He was one of the founders of the political association or club known as the Sons of Liberty, and was a very active member of that body. He was a Brigadier-General of the New York Militia, in the service of the United States, and Secretary of the State of New York.

General Scott died in 1784, aged fifty-four, and was succeeded in the post of Secretary, and in his profession, by his only son and eldest child, Lewis Allaire Scott, who in turn became the parent of the subject of this sketch, and of a daughter who died childless.

The son, John Morin Scott, was born in the city of New York, on the 25th of October, 1789. His father died at an early age, and the youthful widow, who was a Pennsylvanian, brought her two young children to Philadelphia, when the boy was about eight



years old, where she occupied herself with their education, and, in due time, with the social amusements of which she was fond,—a taste which her son inherited from her. The school training of the lad was classical. He was well drilled in the “rudiments” by Robert Andrews, and graduated at Princeton, with the second honor, at the age of fifteen. He remained at Princeton for nearly a year after his graduation, pursuing his studies under the care of the distinguished President of the College. Returning to Philadelphia, he read law in the office of William Rawle, and was duly admitted to practice.

Young Scott now found himself pleasantly situated. He had been a diligent student, and continued to be so. His patrimony, though moderate, was sufficient to place him beyond the immediate necessity of labor in his profession, and he followed up the more refined gaieties of the times with the zest inspired by youth, taste, leisure, and abundant opportunity.

These halcyon days came to an end. When he came of age, Mr. Scott invested his means with a mercantile firm, and sailed for Europe, on a tour of improvement and pleasure. In a few short months, the news of the failure of the house compelled him to return home, to find his property wholly lost, and himself thenceforward dependent on his own exertions. Scott met the crisis in his affairs manfully. He settled down to his profession, and became in due time an able, accomplished, and successful lawyer.

This is not the place for a detailed account of his professional career. A few points may, however, be briefly referred to.

Like that of all lawyers of considerable practice, his life was one of hard labor.

For many years, in early life, he attended the courts in Northampton and the neighboring counties, where he had a kind adviser and guide, and not unfrequently a professional opponent, in his uncle, the able Samuel Sitgreaves, and where, as he afterwards remarked, he conducted a heavy practice, at a time when no one in Philadelphia would employ him to collect a fifty dollar note. In the course of his Northampton practice, he acquired a good knowledge of what is called the “land law” of Pennsylvania, a branch necessarily unfamiliar to most of the Bar of Philadelphia.

To great natural ability, the purest integrity, kind disposition,

and pleasing manners, Mr. Scott added extensive reading and profound knowledge of legal principles, immense industry, much care in the preparation of causes, and skill in their conduct. He was particularly fond of Insurance and Commercial law, and well versed in these heads.

He was a practical and scientific book-keeper. His mode of practice was fair and courteous to his adversary. He was a very inspiring and eloquent speaker. He was, perhaps, not sufficiently brief in his arguments to suit the fashion of the present day. His voice was not of the best kind for an orator. His action was free, animated, and graceful; his language chaste and grammatical, not fragmentary or interjectional. His briefs were, for many years, of the most laborious description. In later days, they became less so, and he preferred to speak without minutely prepared notes, but with a mind thoroughly imbued with his subject. His kindly feelings were apparent in his speeches at the Bar, as well as elsewhere. He never used invective; he was not satirical nor cutting; nor did he aim "bar wit" at his adversary. Hightoned, he could be roused; and then became impassioned or indignant, but never cruel or unkind. His arguments on questions of law exhibited great reasoning power, and much learning and research. In addressing a jury, his usual method was, deliberately, but with animation, to discuss point by point, and thus, if possible, to gain step by step, till the whole was won. On various occasions, he delivered many written addresses before different societies and associations.

Engrossing as were the cares and labors of his profession, Mr. Scott was an active, influential, and useful member of society in other particulars.

He was for some years an officer of different volunteer companies, and as First Lieutenant of the Second Troop of City Cavalry, in the time of the last war with Great Britain, served the tour of duty at Camp Dupont, where he was, for a great part of the time, commanding officer of the Cavalry. In 1815, he was elected to the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, where he served two or more terms. He was always fond of the excitement and occupations of representative bodies, and of political life, but never sought for office.

After his marriage, he was for a long time a member of the City Councils—first of the Common Council, and afterwards of the Select Council ; of which latter body he was for several years President. He was a member, at different times, of various Societies and Boards of Directors. In 1836, he was again elected to the Assembly ; and in the same year was chosen a member of the Convention to propose Amendments to the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

The Convention met in the hall of the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, in May, 1837, and continued its daily sessions at that place, with some intermissions, till November of the same year, when, as the Hall was required for the approaching session of the Legislature, the Convention adjourned to Philadelphia, where it met at the Musical Fund Hall, in Locust Street above Eighth Street, on the 27th of November. Here the Convention continued to meet until its final adjournment, on the 22d of February, 1838. This body, composed of one hundred and thirty-six members, coming from all parts of the State, numbered in its roll, some of the foremost men of the Commonwealth, and many others, of great ability. In it, almost every shade of opinion found a representative—from him who would not favor the change of a word or comma of the old Constitution, to him who advocated the freest amendment. Thus it happened, that the clauses of the old Constitution, and the numerous propositions introduced into the Convention, became the subjects of thorough debate ; and the sessions which at first were expected to terminate speedily, lasted nearly a year. Mr. Scott took an active part in the debates. His speeches were generally “conservative” in sentiment, and were marked by much ability, and a uniform tone of courtesy and respect towards those who differed with him in opinion. He was one of the Committee on the Schedule. He was of the Whig school of politics.

In 1836, Mr. Scott was nominated by the Whigs of Philadelphia as their candidate for Congress. But care for his growing family induced him reluctantly to decline. In 1841, he was elected Mayor of Philadelphia, and was twice re-elected, holding the office for three years. He was unanimously nominated the fourth year by the Whig nominating body (called the Conference) but declined

the nomination, although pressed upon him by a second unanimous vote of the Conference, taken after his letter of declination had been read to them.

One day during his term of service, an insane person at the Mayor's Office fired at him from behind with a pistol. The ball struck on the crossing of Mr. Scott's gum-elastic suspenders immediately over the spinal column, but although he was prostrated to the ground by the violence of the blow, it did no further damage beyond breaking the skin, and inflicting a severe contusion. But for the double gum-elastic, Mr. Scott's life would have ended on the spot. The poor fellow who fired the shot was conveyed to prison, where he attempted to destroy himself, and died in a few days from disease, and perhaps partly from the loss of blood he had suffered by his self-inflicted wounds.

Mr. Scott was again a member of the Common Council in 1850, 1851, and 1852.

In person, Mr. Scott was of medium height, and light but well-proportioned frame. He was vivacious in movement, erect in carriage. He had a countenance expressive of gaiety of spirit, combined with firmness of purpose; hair, in youth, auburn or red, afterwards much mixed with gray; heavy eyebrows; whiskers; light eyes; and a complexion at first ruddy, afterwards sallow. His marriage, which was in 1817, was blessed to the last with the most perfect happiness.

The truest and most endearing affection sate at his board and ruled in his household. His greatest delight was ever found in the society of his wife and in the bosom of his family; and the fond husband and kind and generous parent experienced in his domestic happiness one of the purest and most enduring joys vouchsafed to mankind. He had seven children, of whom five survived him. The death of the third, a son, who had grown to man's estate, a few years previous to Mr. Scott's death, was a severe blow, and weighed heavily upon him. In the troubled sleep of his last illness, the name of this son was breathed in the tenderest accents. Another died in infancy.

Mr. Scott died on the 3d of April, 1858. An editorial notice of his decease, which appeared in an afternoon newspaper of the same day, expresses well the position accorded to him by the public voice. The notice is as follows:—



“It is with sincere and profound regret that we announce the death, this morning, of John M. Scott, and this sentiment is one with which this whole community will sympathize. The deceased was distinguished as among the most eminent members of the Philadelphia Bar, where he has been regarded, during a very long professional career of honor and usefulness, as eminent for his legal learning, his eloquence, and his high probity, no less than for his courtly manners as a refined gentleman.

“It is but a year since Mr. Scott retired from the practice of the law to enjoy a ripe old age in the retirement of his home and family. During his past life, he had honorably filled many public offices of trust, to which the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens had spontaneously called him.

“He was Mayor of the city, and his term of service was distinguished by rare intelligence and integrity. The Bar will do ample justice to his memory and his merits, and we need only express our honest regret at the loss of so excellent a man, whose influence and example were strongly felt for the good of our city.”

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## JAMES SEARLE.

JAMES SEARLE, the subject of this sketch, was born about the year 1730, in the city of New York. But little is now known of his early life. About the time of his majority, or soon after, he was engaged in the mercantile house of his brother, John Searle, at Madeira, where he continued till 1759, when he was admitted into the firm of John Searle & Co. Between the years 1753 and 1759, he paid several visits to America, and more particularly to Philadelphia.

In 1762, he married Miss Nancy Smith, a daughter of Patrick Smith, of Waterford, England. Shortly after his marriage he left Madeira, and settled in Philadelphia; and his name appears among the signers of the memorable Non-importation Agreement, of October 25th, 1765, by which the merchants and other citizens of Philadelphia mutually bound themselves not to order any more goods from Great Britain; to countermand orders already sent;



and further, to sell no goods or merchandise shipped then on commission, after the first of January following, until the Stamp Act be repealed; an important paper, which Mr. Bancroft, in his "History of the United States," does not even allude to, though he notices an exactly similar agreement, six days later, on the part of the merchants of New York, and speaks of "the people of the neighboring governments" being "invited" to "join in the league, justly confident they would follow the example of New York;" which "example" appears really to have been set by Philadelphia. In 1771, he was elected an honorary member of "The Society of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick," a "worthy fraternity," existing in Philadelphia from 1771 to 1798, numbering among its members Generals Wayne, Knox, Irvine, Moylan, and Thompson, Commodore Barry, and other distinguished citizens. As the number of honorary members was limited to ten, this was no ordinary compliment.

On the 20th of November, 1776, Mr. Searle was elected by Congress one of the managers of the United States Lottery. He continued to hold this position until August 19th, 1778, when he was elected a member of the Navy Board, which office he resigned on the 28th of September following, on account of objections to the then existing naval regulations.

But he was destined not to remain long out of public life; for, on the 20th of November, 1778, he was chosen, by the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, one of the delegates of that State in Congress, and took his seat in that body on the 25th of the same month.

In this assembly Mr. Searle appears to have taken a prominent part. He was Chairman of the Commercial Committee of Congress, one of the most important committees of that body; and the Pennsylvania member of the committee to apportion the quota of taxes to be paid by each State; of the Marine Committee, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs. In these committees but one member from each State was chosen; and his associates were such leading men as Henry Laurens, Thomas McKean, Elbridge Gerry, Oliver Ellsworth, and Richard Henry Lee.

In 1779, he was elected one of the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania; and, in November of the same year, he was re-elected

a delegate to Congress ; and held this position when, on the 8th of July, 1780, he was appointed, by the Governor and Council, the agent of the State of Pennsylvania to negotiate a loan of £200,000 sterling, in such countries or states in Europe "as he should judge most likely to favor his views." A letter of instructions was drawn up at the same time and handed to Mr. Searle, together with a commission as Lieutenant-Colonel in the militia of the State. He set out on his mission without delay, and arrived at Paris on the 10th of September, 1780, whence he proceeded to Holland, as promising a more favorable field for his exertions than any other part of Europe. But he found the people so much under the "influence of fear of offending their governors, who were said to be attached to British interests and measures," that he met with no success ; and, indeed, Mr. Adams, applying at the same time, in the name of the United States, was equally unsuccessful. During this time, he communicated fully and frequently accounts of his efforts and progress to President Reed, of whom he was always an attached friend. After remaining some months in Holland, Mr. Searle returned to Paris, and was untiring in his efforts there, but with like, though not singular, ill-fortune, as agents from Massachusetts and Virginia had been vainly endeavoring to accomplish the same desired object. Dr. Franklin was "the declared enemy of private State loans," and his opinions and influence were all-potent in France at that time.

Mr. Searle returned once more to Holland, though with little hope of success, and events fully justified his fears. Having remained in Holland till August, 1781, and his health being seriously impaired by the unfavorable climate, he took passage for America in the "unlucky South Carolina frigate." The South Carolina was carried to the northward as far as Shetland, and the unfortunate passengers were tossed about for nearly six weeks at sea. On the 23d of September some of them were landed at Galicia, and Mr. Searle proceeded thence to L'Orient. Shortly after his arrival at this place, he received the distressing intelligence of the death of his wife ; and, about the same time, the news of unfortunate losses, by reason of the war, to the amount of £10,000 sterling. These misfortunes completely overwhelmed him, and he gave up his design of proceeding to America at that time ; indeed, he contem-

plated "spending the remainder of his days in Europe." But, in the spring of 1782, having received intelligence of the resolutions of Council relative to his recall, he embarked for America, and arrived at Philadelphia in the following June.

For some time after his return he was subjected to the usual harassing annoyances which those who had accounts to settle with State or Government so frequently experienced, and seems to have been dancing attendance on the Assembly for a year or two, with the vain hope of receiving what was his due. But the State treasury was not in a plethoric condition, and the unfortunate creditor generally received more fair promises than just performances.

In 1784, Mr. Searle was appointed commission-agent for his brother's Madeira house, and took up his residence for a time in the city of New York; and, in 1785, with prospects brightening, he took, for his second wife, Miss Isabella West, a fair bride, just twenty years of age, a daughter of George West, Esq., of Monmouth County, New Jersey, and a descendant of Lord De-la-warr, Governor and Captain-General of Virginia in 1609. With this lady he lived happily and had several children, and, for several years, his fortunes seemed to be reviving; but, in 1790, ill-fortune again appeared to predominate.

Mr. Searle was an open, generous liver; is described as "a high-bred gentleman, and very convivial;" and is also spoken of as "one of the greatest wits of the time." He possessed a ready pen, and a graceful flow of language, and was an ardent and true patriot. It appears, from such of his correspondence as survives, that his declining years were clouded by unhappy private embarrassments. Greatly broken in spirits, and the disastrous fortunes of his closing life bearing a strong resemblance to those of the eminent patriot financier of the Revolution, and, like him, worthier of a better fate, he died in Philadelphia, on the 7th of August, 1797, and was buried in St. Peter's churchyard, at the corner of Third and Pine Streets.

## JONATHAN DICKINSON SERGEANT. •

MR. SERGEANT was a zealous patriot and eminent lawyer, and was born at Princeton, in New Jersey, in the year 1746. His father was Jonathan Sergeant, a highly respectable citizen of New Jersey, and his mother was the daughter of the Rev. Jonathan Dickinson, the first President of Princeton College, whose learned and pious writings are extensively known, and have obtained for his memory the high respect due to an enlightened and faithful servant in the cause of religion and letters. The subject of this article studied the law with Richard Stockton, Esq., the elder. He began the practice early, and with decided success.

In February, 1776, he was returned a delegate from New Jersey to Congress, when he became a faithful and industrious member of that illustrious body. He continued in this station throughout the perilous period of 1776, and part of 1777. In the month of July, of the latter year, he was called by the State of Pennsylvania to the office of Attorney-General.

In 1778, Congress having directed a court-martial for the trial of General St. Clair and other officers, in relation to the evacuation of Ticonderoga, and ordered two counsellors, learned in the law, to be appointed to assist the Judge-Advocate in conducting the trial, selected Mr. Sergeant and Mr. Patterson, Attorney-General of New Jersey, to perform that duty.

In the celebrated controversy between the States of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, concerning the Wyoming lands, which was heard and determined, in 1782, before a Court of Commissioners, held under the Confederation, Mr. Sergeant was one of the counsel for the State of Pennsylvania.

In 1780, the storm of war having passed away, he resigned the office of Attorney-General, and devoted himself to his profession, in which his business was large and lucrative.

He continued to enjoy good health, in the midst of his friends and a numerous family, till the pestilence of the yellow fever of 1793 visited the city of Philadelphia. He was appointed on a



Committee of Health, and remained to assist the sick, relieve the distressed, and provide the helpless orphans with clothing, food, and shelter, from funds charitably contributed by themselves and their fellow-citizens. In the performance of this interesting and hazardous duty, he fell a victim to the fever, in the month of October, 1793. He died at the age of forty-seven.

As a lawyer, he was distinguished for integrity, learning, and industry; for great promptness, and an uncommonly fine natural elocution. As a man, he was kind, generous, and actively benevolent; free from selfishness and timidity, and at the same time prudent and just.

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## HON. JOHN SERGEANT.

MR. SERGEANT was born in Philadelphia, and lived there for seventy-three years, during fifty-three of which he was, as an advocate and counsellor, one of the ministers of justice. He has been known and honored for half a century; and in ability, in learning, in integrity, in liberal fairness, and in habitual courtesy, he has maintained the reputation of the Bar of Philadelphia, and supported the inherent dignity of the profession.

He continued from year to year, during his whole life, increasing his titles to respect and honor every day, until he achieved the highest degrees of both—as wise men estimate degrees of honor and respect—by merit, and not by accident, or fortune, or the breath of popular applause. He has rounded the whole circle of his life, fully, completely, perfectly. He has descended to his rest with the mild serenity and beauty of the setting sun, after a course as uninterrupted and regular as the annual movement of the earth itself round that orb. He has more than lived out what the Psalmist calls “the days of our age.” He has escaped the “labor and sorrow” that are foreboded to the strength that attains “four-score;” and now from henceforth, by the necessity which makes the past unchangeable, there is to be no decline nor decay in his bright example. I regard Mr. Sergeant as a fortunate man.

I knew him well; I respected him truly; I honored him faith-



fully. I honored and respected him to the end of his life. I shall honor and respect his memory to the end of my own. No trivial incongruities of feeling or opinion—no misrepresentations, however arising—no petty gust—no cloud of a hand's breadth, which may and will chill or overcast the common sky of the truest friends in a life of fifty-five years, ever for a single instant disturbed the foundations of my regard for him, or even reached the depths in which they were laid. These foundations were laid upon his principles, as I well knew them fifty years ago. They were laid deep upon that sure basis; and they were beyond the reach of change or chance, as his principles were.

Mr. Sergeant and myself were fellow-students in the office of the late Jared Ingersoll—a name that I can never mention without the profoundest veneration, as my master and guide in the law—and it was the good fortune of both Mr. Sergeant and myself to be raised under the eye of such a man, at such a time. It may not be known to the present age, but it is an indisputable fact, that in that venerable man's person there were almost two distinct natures, of different qualities, though both of them excellent; his nature in reflection and his nature in action. In reflection, he was, or appeared to be, rather slow, uncertain, deliberate,—poising and balancing thought against thought, and authority against authority, as if he did not wish to approach the conclusion; and the consequence of it, I believe, was, that while he was generally, and for the most part right, if he ever was otherwise it was because the truth of the conclusion was hurt by the slowness of the process. This was one nature. But when he came into action, he was the most clear, decided, bold, acute, far-sighted man, that I have ever seen in my life, as it regarded all the purposes of his cause; and he sprang to his conclusion instantly and fearlessly, as if he came to it by inspiration.

Mr. Sergeant was admitted into Mr. Ingersoll's office some few, perhaps half a dozen, months before me. We were of the same age within a short month. He was admitted to the Bar a term in advance of me; he in December, 1799, and myself in the following March.

In Mr. Ingersoll's office Mr. Sergeant was a faithful student,—addicted to little pleasure,—social, cheerful, and gay, with the

friends whom he preferred ; and giving to myself, without stint, all the leisure time he had, by night and by day, for the purpose of refreshment, or of mutual benefit, in the course of our studies. He had at that time, what all have since observed, an extraordinary quickness of thought, and an equally extraordinary grasp or comprehension of the thought or argument that was opposed to him. Whatever he studied, he knew well ; and, when he left the office, was as accomplished a student as ever was admitted to the Bar. Mr. Ingersoll's opinion of him was such, that I recollect, upon one occasion, when I went to the master to solve a point which my ignorance had not comprehended, that he said to me, "Go to Mr. Sergeant: he has been over that, and he can tell you, if anybody can." I accordingly went to him, and he told me. This remarkable power of Mr. Sergeant, his quickness of thought, and grasp of comprehension of whatever was submitted to him, either on the same side or against him, you must have been familiar with.

In addition to his quickness, grasp of thought, and power of comprehension, he derived, through an excellent education, the art of arranging his argument with perfect skill, according to the rules of the most effective logic ; and he was able to penetrate the want of it in anybody that was opposed to him. He never split hairs. He never confused his premises and conclusion, by blending them together or involving them in any way ; and he never permitted any one to do it against him ; and he marched to his conclusion by a path or paths that he was willing to let everybody trace and examine after he had completed the passage ; and it was not safe for any man to do otherwise with him.

Mr. Sergeant, I need not say, advanced from that time, steadily and uninterruptedly, until he came to the position that he finally held. His progress was more rapid than that of some of his contemporaries ; but at length they approached nearly to his position ; and it was from being concerned myself frequently on the same side with him, that I came at length to know the peculiar habits of his mind, to which, perhaps, some of the Bar may be strangers. Any man, in any position at that time, could know what his powers were. No man could so well know as myself the manner in which he brought his powers into action.

I need not say what was the extent of his learning, or the effectiveness with which he handled every cause that was submitted to him ; you have been the witnesses of that. But I may speak of what were the moral qualities of the man during his whole career at the Bar. His honor and integrity in all that regarded the profession or the management of his cause, were not only above impeachment or imputation, but beyond the thought of it. So distinct and universal was this impression, that if any man had directed a battery of that sort against him, the recoil would have prostrated him to the earth. His heart, his mind, his principles, his conscience, his bond to man, and his bond to Heaven, which he had given early, and which, to the last, he never intentionally violated, would have made it, humanly speaking, impossible to him to swerve from his integrity. It is the best example for the rising generation to have before them. He was perfectly fair. There was no evasion, no stratagem, no surprisal, no invocation of prejudice, no appeal to unworthy passions ; he was above, far above, all this. Mr. Sergeant had too much strength, indeed, to make use of such arts, to say nothing of his virtue. He was charitable in doing work at the Bar without pecuniary compensation, though not without reward ; he had that which in his judgment was the best. But he did not do it ostentatiously. He did not do it by proclamation, informing the court in the presence of the bystanders that he had not received a fee, but that it would make no difference with him. He never let his left hand know what his right hand did. Still less did he ever impose upon the left hand of others, by informing them of what his right hand had not done. He was in every respect internally, in the heart, a most kind man. I do not mean that he was kind by routine,—kind by ceremonial courtesy.

Having spoken of his manners at the Bar, and the example he gave to the Bar, I ought to speak of the range of his mind, as the conclusion of the whole matter. The range of Mr. Sergeant's mind was just as wide as the whole circle of his professional necessities. He knew the bearings of every part of the law, although he had not penetrated into every nook and corner of it. But he could draw his resources from every part with equal ease when it was necessary. And it was often a matter of doubt in my own mind with what branch of the law he was most conversant. He had

acquired an early training in criminal law, and in that he not only went before his cotemporaries, but he stood on one side of them, walking a different line. He was, of course, generally accomplished, as you may judge from what I have said. But if he had any predilection—and I think he had—the discursiveness of his mind inclined him to such questions as would not fetter him by the chains of authority, but would suffer him to choose for himself the path in which his own suggestive powers could work freely. Upon more than one occasion he rose to the highest degree of excellence in the class of constitutional questions. They were the best suited to him. But he worked with ease and vigor in many fields. It was not altogether so with our predecessors at this Bar. Although they were all competent, able, and effective men, there was a marked difference in them in respect to their particular excellence. Mr. Lewis was the crown lawyer—the criminal lawyer by way of eminence. Mr. Edward Tilghman was the lawyer for estates and tenures, devises and remainders. Mr. Ingersoll, Mr. Dallas, and Mr. Rawle were most able advocates, and more able than others in commercial law. And Mr. Duponceau was the prime leader in maritime and public law. At that time, the preference was given by all of them to the leader in that particular branch upon which the case might depend. In modern times, I believe this practice is forgotten and passed away. General finish and accomplishment prevail, and there is no one now can claim to himself a prominent ability in any particular branch. So much for Mr. Sergeant's professional character and professional life.

He died 23d November, 1852, aged seventy-three years.—*From Hon. Horace Binney's Remarks to the Bar of Philadelphia, November, 1852.*

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### ADAM SEYBERT, M.D.

ADAM SEYBERT, M.D., a member of Congress for eight years from Philadelphia, died at Paris, May 2d, 1825, bequeathing \$1000 for educating the deaf and dumb, and \$500 for the Orphan Asylum, Philadelphia. He was a man of science and benevolence, and was



particularly skilful as a chemist and mineralogist. He published a valuable work, "Statistical Annals of the United States, from 1789 to 1818," 4to. He was a great friend to the encouragement of American manufactures.

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### JACOB SHALLUS.

JACOB SHALLUS, a native of Philadelphia, died 18th April, 1796, aged forty-six years. He served as volunteer Quarter-Master to the first Pennsylvania Regiment, commanded by De Haas, on the expedition against Canada, and was present during its siege. For his good conduct he was promoted, in May, 1776, by the General-in-chief, Barrack-Master of the army. In 1777, he was appointed Deputy Commissary of the State of Pennsylvania; and, after the close of the war, was for many years successively elected Assistant Clerk of the Assembly of that State. He was also Assistant Secretary of the Convention which formed the Constitution of Pennsylvania, in 1790. He was the father of Francis Shallus, who, in 1817, published, in two volumes, "Chronological Tables, for Every Day in the Year," an interesting work of some merit, and rare.

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### JAMES SHARSWOOD.

JAMES SHARSWOOD was born in the city of Philadelphia, March 24th, 1747-8, old style. His great-grandfather, George Sharswood, emigrated from England, and settled in New London, Connecticut, about the year 1665. A short account of his family is to be found in Caulkin's "History of New London," page 347. His father, George Sharswood, was born at Cape May, New Jersey, October 18th, 1696, and came to Philadelphia in the year 1706, a boy ten years old. He died in 1780, in the eighty-fourth year of his age. James had two brothers, George and William, both of



whom died unmarried. Though intended for mechanical pursuits, the three boys were placed at the grammar school of the College of Philadelphia, under the Rev. Mr. Beveridge, and remained there until their class was prepared for college, receiving thus the advantage of a sound, classical, and mathematical education. James learned the business of a house-carpenter, but followed the business only a very short time. After the close of the Revolutionary War, and the death of his father, he engaged for some years in the lumber business, having his lumber-yard first at the southeast corner of Sixth and Arch Streets; and afterwards at the northeast corner of Sixth and Race Streets. On the 2d April, 1775, he was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Bredin, of Abington, Bucks County. About this period he met with an accident, which had well-nigh proved fatal at the time, and the consequences of which he carried to his grave. He fell from the third story of a new house, through the open rafters, striking his back against one of them in the course of his fall. This injury eventually produced a curvature of the spine. However, in 1776, he was chosen Captain of a company of volunteers, or "associators," as they were termed. In December of that year he marched, with fifteen hundred others, to Trenton. On the 8th of that month, General Washington crossed the Delaware. In the arrangement of the troops, Colonel Cadwalader, with the Pennsylvania militia, occupied the ground above and below the mouth of Neshaminy Creek, as far down as Dunk's Ferry. The battle of Trenton was fought December 26th, 1776. It was part of the plan for Colonel Cadwalader to cross the river at Bristol, and attack the British post at Burlington. Some of the infantry, Sharswood's company included, passed over in the night, and were posted so near the British as to hear distinctly the sentinels relieving guard. The ice in the river rendered it impracticable to get over the artillery; and, in consequence, the whole detachment returned. That winter, as is well known, was one of the most severe that has ever been experienced in this latitude. The troops lay out a great deal on the bare ground, and were otherwise necessarily exposed. So violent a return of his pains in the part injured by his fall took place that Sharswood was obliged to throw up his command, and return, or rather be transported home in a litter, for he could no longer stand on his feet.

In 1793, broke out, in Philadelphia, that fearful epidemic, the yellow fever. One of the first appearing to be affected with some extraordinary symptoms was a son of James Sharswood, as related by Dr. Rush in his Account, page 5. A meeting of the citizens of Philadelphia was held at the Court-house September 14th, 1793. At this meeting a committee was appointed "to transact the whole of the business relative to mitigating the sufferings of those that are or may be afflicted with the disorder prevalent in this city and vicinity; to procure physicians, nurses, and attendants, and generally to furnish those things that are or may become necessary to be performed for the above-mentioned purpose." James Sharswood was one of the committee. It met and organized, and a sub-committee was appointed to take charge of Bush Hill Hospital, the general receptacle of the infected. Of this sub-committee James Sharswood was a member. Three of the sub-committee attended every day at the City Hall, from 9 to 12 o'clock A.M., and from 3 to 5 o'clock P.M., "to receive applications for relief, and to afford such assistance as may be necessary to persons afflicted with the prevalent malignant fever." From the 14th September, 1793, until 1st December, 1793, the committee met daily; and, after that, two or three times a week, when their labors, as a general committee, closed. The published minutes show that James Sharswood was present at every meeting of the committee. On the 3d October, 1793, he was added to the Orphan Committee. On the 24th December, 1793, the committee, taking into consideration "the destitute and affecting condition of those children who were deprived of their parents and friends by the late malignant fever, and who are now under the care of the committee," it was resolved "that a memorial be prepared and presented to the Legislature, for the purpose of obtaining permanent provision for their support and education." The memorial, prepared accordingly, states, "that the number of children who have thus come under the notice of the committee amount to 194, of whom 82 have been delivered to their surviving friends, 19 have died, and 93 remain still under the care of the committee." The Legislature accordingly passed an act making provision for the support of these orphans, constituting seven gentlemen, of whom James Sharswood was one, "to receive and take charge of them, superintend their morals, education, and

employment, and provide for them suitable clothing and diet ;” and giving the committee authority to bind them out apprentices, or otherwise, as in their judgment would be most conducive to their present well-being and future interests. (Act of 22d April, 1794 ; 4 Carey & Bioren, 421.)

James Sharswood was one of the original members of the Democratic or Republican party. The first regular organization was in Philadelphia, in an unsuccessful attempt to oust the Federalists from the city government, in 1796. He was a candidate on the Republican ticket that year for Select Council. He was a candidate also several succeeding years ; but, in 1801, the ticket succeeded. He served three years in the Select Council ; during the last year of his term, as Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means. In 1804, he was elected a member of the General Assembly, from the city of Philadelphia. The Assembly then sat in Lancaster. During that session, not a single day was he missed from his seat, and his name is to be found recorded on every call of the ayes and noes. He now formed the friendship of Simon Snyder, Nathaniel B. Baileau, and Abner Laycock. He was repeatedly on the Assembly ticket in the city ; but the party had fallen then into a hopeless minority, and so continued for several years. In 1809, Governor Snyder offered him the Commission of Associate Judge of the Common Pleas ; but he declined to accept it.

He took an early and active interest in the Ridge Turnpike Road. He was Chairman of the Commissioners named in the Act to receive the subscriptions to the stock, and afterwards President of the Company. He interested himself warmly in procuring the original charter of the Farmers’ and Mechanics’ Bank, and visited Lancaster two winters with that object. He was one of the first Board of Directors, and continued for more than twenty years to have a seat at the Board. He advocated the establishment of local banks, merely on the ground that if we had not our own institutions, we would be flooded with the bank notes of New Jersey and Delaware. On principle, he was a decided anti-bank man ; and when the Bank of the United States was started, in 1817, under such inauspicious circumstances, he wrote a number of articles adverse to that institution and the course pursued by the banks generally, which were published in the Aurora, under the signa-

ture of "Nestor," and which were afterwards, with those signed "Observer," and "Brutus," collected and printed in pamphlet form.

The curvation of his spine continued gradually to increase. During the last fifteen years of his life he was never out of the house, indeed, rarely out of his chamber. He was a constant reader, and kept up his classical acquisitions. His mental faculties were unimpaired to within less than twenty-four hours of his death. He died, Sept. 14, 1836, in the eighty-ninth year of his age. He was always temperate, contented, and cheerful, the object of affectionate confidence and reverence to the members of his family, and a small circle of old friends, in whose society he delighted. These gradually died, and left him alone; but he had still abundant sources of enjoyment in his books, and the education of one of his grandchildren.

He had several children, but only two reached maturity,—William, still living, and residing in the old country-seat, north of Girard College; George, who died at the early age of twenty-two years, having one son, George, who was educated by his grandfather, and who at present occupies the position of President Judge of the District Court for the City and County of Philadelphia.

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## EDWARD SHIPPEN.

EDWARD SHIPPEN, one of the first settlers of Pennsylvania, was a native of England, and a member of the Society of Friends. He came to Massachusetts to avoid persecution, and settled at Boston as early as 1669; but persecution drove him thence to Pennsylvania, in which colony he was Speaker of the House of Assembly, and a member of the Governor's Council. He was the first Mayor of Philadelphia. His descendants are persons of distinction to the present day.



## EDWARD SHIPPEN.

MR. SHIPPEN was born and educated in the city of Philadelphia, and to his native State he devoted his labors and talents during a long and useful life. He was born on the 16th day of February, 1729.

In 1791, he was appointed one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, whose jurisdiction extended over the whole State, and whose duties and powers called for the highest grade of professional learning and talents, as well as of personal character and public confidence. On the election of Chief Justice McKean to the executive chair of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in 1799, Judge Shippen succeeded him on the Bench, and was appointed Chief Justice by Governor McKean, who was perfectly well acquainted with the qualifications the office demanded, and with the fitness of the person he selected for it. Chief Justice Shippen continued to perform the duties of his exalted station with undiminished ability, and unimpaired confidence and respect, until the close of the year 1805, when the infirmities of old age, he being then nearly seventy-seven years old, admonished him to retire to repose. A few months after his resignation of office, on the 16th April, 1806, he found his final resting-place; placidly leaving the world, in which, from his earliest youth, he had been conspicuous for his virtues and usefulness.



## WILLIAM SHORT.

BY HENRY D. GILPIN.

WILLIAM SHORT, born at Spring Garden, Surry County, Virginia, on the 30th September, A.D. 1759, died at Philadelphia on the 5th of December, 1849.

His life, public and private, was distinguished by ability, probity, and industry never questioned. He received from President Washington, with the unanimous approval of the Senate, the first appointment to public office conferred under the Constitution of the United States, and from President Jefferson, whose affectionate friendship he always possessed, proofs of similar confidence. These public trusts he fulfilled with a sincere patriotism, a sagacious judgment, moderation, and integrity, which deserved and secured success.

In private life, which for many years he fondly coveted, he was social, generous, and urbane. The evening of his lengthened days was cheerful and tranquil, and their close was welcomed with resignation and without a pang.

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## JOSEPH SILL.

MR. JOSEPH SILL was born in the city of Carlisle, Cumberland County, England, on the 14th day of May, 1801, and from his earliest childhood exhibited signs of the most persevering energy, industry, and economy. He had but few advantages in regard to education, but his desire for knowledge stimulated him to use every opportunity for acquiring it. At the age of twelve, he was deprived by death of a father's care, and at eighteen years of age, he emigrated to the United States, the better to earn an honest living, and assist in the support of his widowed mother and a younger

sister. He landed in the city of Philadelphia in the year 1819, and was not slow in securing a situation as a clerk in a store in Market Street. Here, by a course of strict attention to business, and an even, obliging disposition, united with the most rigid economy, he gained the good-will of his employers and many other new friends he had made. As years rolled on, he was enabled to send remittances to his relations in Carlisle, and still to pay all his own expenses. At the age of twenty-four, he married Miss Jane Todhunter, late from London, and began business, in the dry goods line, by opening a store No. 177 (old No.) Chestnut Street, opposite the State-House. Although this was done upon an extremely small scale, it succeeded well, and custom rapidly increased. In 1835, a larger store was rented at No. 185, a few doors above, and was fitted up at a much greater expense. Soon after this, gas lighting was introduced into Philadelphia, and Mr. Sill's store was among the first to prove the utility and saving of this mode of artificial light. In 1847, Mr. Sill entered also into partnership with his brother-in-law, Mr. William Todhunter, in the foreign and domestic commission business, at No. 12 South Front Street, from which place the firm moved after Mr. Todhunter's death (in 1848) to No. 52 Chestnut Street, where the business was continued under the title of Sill, Arnold & Leonard. But Mr. Sill was not merely a good merchant. He had, at all convenient seasons, perfected his knowledge of science, arts, and literature, and by cultivating the society of the *savans* of this and other cities, by travel, study, and other means of information, he was conversant upon almost every topic of the day. His most prominent trait was a love of the fine arts, and from time to time, he collected some valuable works of the eminent artists of England, France, America, and other countries.

Almost from the time of his arrival in America, he became a member of the Society of the Sons of St. George, established for the advice and relief of Englishmen in distress, and held the situation as Secretary for many years; and later still was elected the President, and re-elected to that position several times. His heart and hand were always open to alleviate the sufferings of his fellow-countrymen, and not alone to them. He was suddenly stricken down by a paralytic stroke, on the 31st day of October,

1854, in his fifty-fourth year, and died, November 2d, lamented by a large circle of immediate relatives and friends, and by the whole city, of which he was so great an ornament.

“None knew him but to love him,  
None named him but to praise.”

A week or so after the funeral, the Rev. W. H. Furness, D.D., delivered a beautiful tributary oration upon him in the First Unitarian Church, which, by request, has since been printed.

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## GEORGE SIMPSON.

GEORGE SIMPSON, the subject of this memoir, was born on the 12th day of December, 1759, in Philadelphia, and was the third son of Samuel Simpson, who emigrated to this country from England in the year 1753.

George Simpson was engaged in the Revolutionary War, and although quite young was appointed Assistant Commissary-General at Coryell's Ferry, when the troops of the Continental army under Washington were stationed near that place. On the establishment of the Bank of North America, the first bank in the Union, and incorporated by the Continental Congress and by the State of Pennsylvania, he was appointed one of its chief officers; and of the first Bank of the United States, chartered by the Government, he was appointed the cashier, and continued to be so until its expiration in 1811. When Stephen Girard established his banking house, he appointed George Simpson his cashier. Stephen Girard was never mistaken in his men, as the following fact illustrates: Mr. Simpson offered him the same security in amount, and the same individual he had given the original Bank of the United States, when Mr. Girard replied, “No, Mr. Simpson, I would rather have you as my cashier without security, than anybody else with it.”

George Simpson was for a long time associated with the finances of the Government, and during the last war with Great Britain was

of essential service in aiding to raise the ways and means to carry on the contest.

Stephen Girard commenced his banking operations in 1812, with a capital of one million two hundred thousand dollars. The officers of the old Bank of the United States were all retained by Mr. Simpson, when he was invested with plenary power over the concerns of the institution. This fact gave moneyed men confidence in transacting business with the Bank of Stephen Girard; and even European bankers sought an acquaintance and business with the great banker and his efficient cashier. Stephen Girard's Bank never refused to pay specie for one of its notes. On the establishment of his bank, George Simpson having observed to him, "Well, Mr. Girard, to be a good merchant, you see it is necessary to have a bank," he replied, "Yes, Mr. Simpson, and to have a good bank, it is necessary to have a cashier like you." This took place when his ship, the *Montesquieu*, was ransomed from the British at the capes of the Delaware, when the sum of ninety-three thousand dollars in gold was sent from his bank as the price of her ransom, and at a time when specie payments were suspended by all the other banks, and gold to that amount could not easily have been purchased in the market.

No man's name went farther for intelligence, integrity, and honor. His patriotic course, from his graduating at college, led him into an acquaintance with the most distinguished men and statesmen of the good old thirteen States, and among his friends and correspondents were to be found General Washington, Alexander Hamilton, Robert Morris, and Bishop White. His conduct, at a later period, when cashier of the Bank of Stephen Girard, goes to confirm his early love of country; for in the war of 1812, he prevailed upon the moneyed men of that day to subscribe for the balance of the sixteen million loan of 1813, which had not been taken under the original proposals, for which he never received the commissions due for his services.

Money is the sinews of war. A nation that becomes belligerent, without previously having amassed wealth, must necessarily become more or less a slave to the capitalist; but Mr. Simpson's connection with the moneyed men of the year 1813, enabled him to render



great and efficient services to the Government, in obtaining the loans that were required.

His knowledge of banking was acquired by nearly forty years' labor in the vocation of cashier. The system on which he loaned money was simple, being founded on the combined principle of equity and interest. All the small notes that were considered good were discounted in preference to those that were large. Two objects were accomplished by this system: to accommodate small dealers, to promote the industry of young beginners in trade, and to divide the risk for the security of the banker. A fair running account was considered sufficient to entitle a creditable applicant to liberal discounts of business paper. This was his favorite system.

Nor was it only by aiding the Government in procuring funds during the war that he contributed to assist in the contest; besides this, two of his sons were engaged in the memorable and glorious battle of New Orleans, under General Andrew Jackson.

In Europe, too, as well as in the United States, Mr. Simpson was well and honorably known; and his correspondence with and agencies for the first and largest commercial and banking houses in England, France, and Germany, stood without a parallel in his day. David Parrish, who was at one time connected with the famous house of Hope & Co., of Amsterdam, and also largely engaged with Baring, Brothers & Co., of London, brought letters of introduction from these houses to him. Such was his high standing that a letter from him to any of his correspondents in Europe insured for the bearer the greatest hospitality and attention; indeed, an instance is known to the writer wherein the gentleman whom he introduced was not allowed to remain many hours at a public house during a sojourn abroad of nearly a year.

Of his great attention to pecuniary trusts, it is proper to mention the singular fidelity he exhibited in carrying out the will of a testator, a citizen of Lancaster County, who died and left him one of his executors and guardian to an only child, to whom was bequeathed nearly his whole fortune, of about fifty-five thousand dollars. This, by regular investment of the interest arising thereon, and by fortunate purchases of United States three per cent. stock, in about the space of twenty years, increased nearly to the round



sum of two hundred thousand dollars; and was, by his administrators, duly paid over to the young man when he became of age.

Mr. Simpson enjoyed good health until about his sixtieth year, with the exception of his being afflicted with the yellow fever, in 1798. In his sixty-third year he was attacked with apoplexy, and was compelled to give up his usual exercise on horseback, and departed this life on the 30th November, 1822, in Philadelphia. He was buried in the family vault, in St. Paul's Churchyard, South Third Street.

George Simpson was always the poor man's friend, with "a hand open as day for melting charity."

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## STEPHEN SIMPSON.

STEPHEN SIMPSON was the son of George Simpson. His father was cashier of the old Bank of the United States (of 1791), and afterwards of Stephen Girard's Bank. During a long life, George Simpson exercised the duties of the various trusts confided to him with care, vigilance, and fidelity. No citizen maintained a character more free from reproach or blemish; and he enjoyed, through a life extending to a good age, the respect and esteem of all who knew him. Stephen Simpson in his youth was placed in the Bank of the United States as a note-clerk, a situation he voluntarily resigned. Soon afterwards, there appeared in the columns of "The Aurora," then published by the late Colonel William Duane, a series of articles, signed "Brutus," which attracted great attention. They were bold, defying, scathing attacks upon the management of the Bank of the United States, its policy, and its transactions. The tone of these articles was extremely vindictive; they were virulent; they were bitter; but they were extremely able. The secrets of the directors' room seemed to be in the entire control of "Brutus." He revealed transactions which were thought to have been veiled in profound secrecy. He proclaimed the results of machinations which he denounced as insidious and corrupt. The officers seem

to have been watched by a spy during their most secret conferences, and the results of their most confidential deliberations were announced. Armed with this immense power conferred upon him by his knowledge of facts, "Brutus" added to the force of his articles a nervous, solid, and sarcastic style, which either crushed by its vehemence, or deeply wounded by its thrusts. The town was amazed. The parties attacked were called upon to fight an invisible enemy. None could tell the author, and all efforts to penetrate his incognito were vain. A mystery, as guarded as that of Junius, veiled the "Brutus" letters whilst they were published in "The Aurora." Colonel Duane affected not to know the author. The letters were deposited at a certain place, and very often the late Edward Duane, a boy, was sent to receive them. They were given him in a mysterious manner, were taken to the office of "The Aurora," appeared in print, and none connected with the establishment, unless it might have been the editor, were any wiser as to the authorship. Universal curiosity was awakened; surmise and speculations were rife.

In 1822, Stephen Simpson and John Conrad commenced "The Columbian Observer," a newspaper, the publication of which was placed in the hands of Jesper Harding. The mere appearance of this paper might not have served to dissipate the mystery which had enveloped the articles of "Brutus" when published in "The Aurora;" but there was no intention that the authorship should be longer concealed. The letters of "Brutus" were resumed in the "Observer." The style, manner, and temper, were the same as formerly, and thenceforth there was no attempt to conceal the fact that Stephen Simpson was the author of these epistles.

"The Columbian Observer," under the guidance of Simpson and Conrad, was radically Democratic. At that time the Democratic party in the city and county of Philadelphia was in the condition of "*omniæ Gallia*," which, as Cæsar, at the commencement of his Commentaries, relates, was divided "*in partes tres*."

The journals of the day divided upon the Presidential question. "The Democratic Press" favored William H. Crawford, the Secretary of War, who afterwards received the nomination of the Congressional caucus, in what was then the regular mode. "The Franklin Gazette" at first advocated John C. Calhoun, a preference

afterwards foregone for General Jackson. "The Columbian Observer" had been the strong, warm, and violent advocate of the latter from the first day of its publication. It had never ceased to urge his claims; and, though some affected to despise it, in consequence of its bold and defying tone, it really had much influence. The Democratic party, at that day, was much distracted by cliques, whose constant intrigues rendered "union and harmony" quite impossible.

Stephen Simpson was chief editor and proprietor of "The Portico; a Repository of Science and Literature," a monthly periodical, published at one time in Baltimore, by Neale, Wills & Cole, and Anthony Finley, Philadelphia.

Stephen Simpson continued the duties of a writer and author for many years. He wrote "The Life of Stephen Girard," and many other works.

He was born 24th July, 1789, and died 17th August, 1854. He was buried in the family vault, at St. Paul's Church, South Third Street.

He and an elder brother, George Simpson, Jr., who was an officer, were both engaged in the battle of New Orleans, on the 8th January, 1815, under General Andrew Jackson; and, what is extraordinary, they belonged to the only company in which any men were killed.

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## WILLIAM SMITH, D.D.

DR. SMITH was born in Scotland, and was a graduate of the University of Aberdeen, in 1747. After his arrival in this country he was, for more than two years, tutor in the family of Colonel Martin, of Long Island. During this time he revisited England, and was ordained to the ministry.

He early gave his attention to the subject of education; for, in 1753, when King's College was about being organized in New York, he wrote and published an ingenious essay, entitled, "A General Idea of the College of Mirania," addressed "to the Trustees by law appointed for receiving proposals relating to the esta-

blishment of a college in New York." He revisited England, and received his ordination in 1753.

Before the College charter was obtained in Philadelphia, he was placed at the head of the Academy, May 25th, 1754, and was, as we have seen, constituted the first Provost of the College. In the published collection of his discourses, there is a sermon from his pen, preached in Christ Church, Philadelphia, September 1st, 1754, on the death of a pupil of the senior philosophy class, William Thomas Martin, which is accompanied by verses written by Francis Hopkinson, Samuel Magaw, Jacob Duché, and Paul Jackson, who became a classical tutor in the College, and was among the first graduates in the year 1757. Other discourses and addresses, at various intervals, show Dr. Smith to have been a man of science, of literature, of patriotism, and of Christian devotion. One of the earliest of his writings was "A Philosophical Meditation and Religious Address to the Supreme Being," which was intended for the use of young students in philosophy, and published in London in 1754, in a volume with a treatise on ethics by the Rev. Dr. Johnson, the first President of King's College. From October, 1757, to October, 1758, he published a series of eight essays in "The American Magazine," at Philadelphia, with the title of "The Hermit." They exhibit a warmth of feeling and a taste for letters, ready to ripen into the pursuits of the scholar and divine. In 1758, he wrote an "Earnest Address to the Colonies," stimulating the country for its defence against the French. He preached also several sermons on occasion of that war; and, on the opening of the Revolution, a military discourse, June 23d, 1775, in which he assisted the American cause. He also delivered an oration in memory of General Montgomery, at the request of Congress, in 1776. This was an eloquent production, as was also his Eulogium on Benjamin Franklin, pronounced before the American Philosophical Society, March 1st, 1791.

The Rev. Francis Alison, who filled the office of Vice-Provost, the corresponding period with the Provostship of Dr. Smith, was born in Ireland, in 1705, was educated at the University of Glasgow, and reaching America in 1735, was appointed to the charge of a Presbyterian church at New London, in Chester County, Pennsylvania. Here he opened a school, and had for his pupils several



youths, who afterwards became distinguished. He was first rector, and then master of the Latin school at Philadelphia. He then became first Vice-Provost of the College, in 1775, and held the office at his death, in 1777. Besides these engagements, Dr. Alison was colleague in the ministry of the First Presbyterian Church with Dr. Ewing.

Provost Smith made two visits to England, while in charge of the College. In one of these, in 1759, undertaken, we are told, "to escape the resentment of the Pennsylvania Legislature" (at one time he was placed under arrest, and his classes attended him at his place of confinement), with which he had become at odds by his sympathies with the proprietors, he received the title of Doctor of Divinity, from the University of Oxford; and in 1762, he was united with James Jay, of New York, in solicitation for funds, which were divided between the colleges in New York and Philadelphia; the latter receiving the sum of six thousand pounds sterling. The College had been sustained by numerous donations, legacies, and gifts, which its benevolent feature of a charity school facilitated.

The College rapidly grew into fame under Smith's administration; the aggregate of students was large, and the number from other provinces and the West Indies, became so considerable that a special building, in 1762, was erected for their accommodation, the trustees readily raising the funds by a lottery.

From 1753 to 1773, in this ante-revolutionary period, the studies in oratory and English literature were directed by the Rev. Ebenezer Kinnersley, who attained separate distinction by his share in the electrical experiments of Franklin. He exhibited the phenomena of electricity in public lectures through the Colonies, and visited the West Indies. His apparatus was bought by the College after his decease. The medical school, which has become of such high distinction, dates from the appointment of Dr. Morgan, in 1765, as Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic. Dr. William Shippen's chair of Anatomy and Surgery, was created the same year, and the appointment of Dr. Kuhn, Professor of Botany and Materia Medica, and of Dr. Benjamin Rush, of Che-



mistry, followed. In 1767, the medical school, was regularly organized, and the next year degrees were conferred.

At a later period in Dr. Smith's career, difficulties grew up between the trustees and the Legislature, representing the popular interest. The Provost had been attached to the proprietors in the political agitations of the times; and it was charged, though apparently without reason, that it was the design of the trustees, some of whom were represented to be of monarchical inclination, to defeat the original liberal object of the charter, by making a Church of England institution of the College. This prejudice or hostility took shape in 1779, in an act of the Legislature, which annulled the charter of the College, took away the funds, and created a new institution, with liberal grants of the confiscated estates of the royalists, entitled the University of Pennsylvania. This act produced the usual excitement of a proceeding necessarily of a violent revolutionary character, and it was resisted by Dr. Smith, and his friends, who procured a law, in 1789, reinstating the College trustees and faculty in their ancient estates and privileges. The meetings for the reorganization of the College, were held at the house of Dr. Franklin. Dr. Smith became again Provost, and the medical faculty was strengthened by the addition of Dr. Wistar in Chemistry and the Institutes of Medicine, and Dr. Barton in Botany and Natural History. In 1791, the old institution finally succumbed, and an act of the Legislature was passed, blending the two bodies in the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Smith at this time permanently retired from the institution, his age and the old difficulties preventing his reappointment. He carried with him the respect of the public, and an acknowledgment of his usefulness in an annuity of one hundred pounds for life. He died in 1803, leaving a collection of writings ready for posthumous publication.

## RICHARD PENN SMITH.

RICHARD PENN SMITH was born in Philadelphia, in March, 1799. His father, William Moore Smith, was a gentleman of polished education, and a poet of considerable reputation in his day. Mr. Smith studied law in the office of the elder William Rawle, and was admitted to the Bar in 1821. At a very early age he evinced a fondness for literary pursuits, and his first appearance as an author, was as a contributor to the columns of "The Union," in a series of essays entitled "The Plagiary." In the year 1822, he succeeded William Duane as the editor and proprietor of "The Aurora," and continued to publish that newspaper for five years, during which time it was one of the leading journals of the day. He then resumed his profession of the law, and devoted his leisure hours to his favorite literary pursuits.

In 1831, he published a novel, called "The Forsaken," the scene of which is laid in the vicinity of Philadelphia, during the American Revolution.

He also wrote, at intervals, numerous tales and sketches for the periodicals of the day, which he subsequently collected and republished in two volumes, entitled "The Actress of Padua, and Other Tales."

He also possessed a fine taste for poetry, and a number of his productions bear ample evidence of his talent of expression and harmony of versification.

His favorite study was the drama, and with this department of literature he was thoroughly familiar.

About fifteen of his plays were produced, at different periods, on the Philadelphia stage, and in most instances with complete success. Amongst them may be mentioned the tragedy of "Caius Marius," written for Edwin Forrest, in 1831; the several comedies and farces called, "The Deformed," "The Disowned," "William Penn," "The 8th January," "Quite Correct," "The Sentinels," "The Water Witch," "Is She a Brigand?" "The Daughter," "My Uncle's Wedding," "The Actress of Padua," &c.

Some of these plays were performed with success in London, an honor never before received by an American dramatist.

Mr. Smith died at his residence, at the Falls of Schuylkill, in August, 1854.

He was considered one of the best belles-lettres scholars of his day. His mind was well stored with the classics, both ancient and modern; his style of writing was natural in manner, correct in description, concise in expression, and interspersed with a quiet humor and an occasional sarcasm, which made his productions both pleasant and pungent. Possessed of such a varied knowledge, his pen was in constant requisition; and whether called upon to write a novel, play, story, poem, or biography, he was always ready and able to perform the task with facility.

In social life he was an agreeable companion, instructive, and entertaining; and those who enjoyed his friendship will always retain a lively recollection of his quickness in repartee, and brilliancy in wit.



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## GENERAL PERSIFOR FRAZER SMITH.

THE whole community was shocked to hear of the death of General Persifor Frazer Smith, of the United States Army, commander of the expedition to Utah. This unexpected event occurred at Fort Leavenworth, in Kansas, shortly before one o'clock, on Monday morning, May 17th, 1858.

General Smith was a worthy son of Pennsylvania, having been born in Philadelphia, in November, 1798, so that he was in the sixtieth year of his age. He was a son of Jonathan Smith, former Cashier of the Bank of Pennsylvania, and afterwards Cashier of the Bank of the United States. Jonathan Smith, whose father held an important public office in Chester County, under the Colonial Government, came to Philadelphia during the last century. The maternal grandfather of General Smith was Persifor Frazer, who was a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Revolutionary Army.

After going through a collegiate course and graduating at Princeton, the subject of this notice studied law under the late Charles Chauncey, Esq. Upon his admission to practice, he removed to New Orleans, where he resided, engaged in the duties of his profession, until the period of the Florida War, when he volunteered for service there, and served gallantly during two campaigns under General Gaines. It was here that his military talent was brought to the knowledge of General Taylor, and it was upon his recommendation that the Governor of Louisiana gave to him the command of the Louisiana volunteers for service in the war with Mexico. He served under General Taylor in the campaign of the Rio Grande.

In May, 1846, while in Mexico, he was appointed Colonel of the Rifle Regiment that was raised for the war, and for his services at the siege and capture of Monterey, he was brevetted Brigadier General. He was subsequently ordered to join General Scott, and commanded a brigade on the memorable march from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico, taking a prominent part in the most important battles.

At Contreras, he rendered efficient service, General Scott, in his official report, stating that he "closely directed the whole attack in front with his habitual coolness and ability." At Chapultepec also he was prominently engaged, as also in the final struggle at the city gates. General Scott, in his reference to the Belen Gate affair, again describes General Smith as "cool, unembarrassed, and ready," and these were distinguishing traits of his military character.

After the war was over, General Smith, who had been promoted to the rank of Major-General by brevet, for his services at Contreras, was ordered to California, to the command of that Military Department. Subsequently, he held a similar command in Texas. In 1856, he was ordered to Kansas, where he has remained in command until quite recently, when he was appointed to the command of the Expedition to Utah.

General Smith has suffered, since his service in Texas, with chronic diarrhœa, and it is probable that this was the cause of his death. He leaves a widow, but only one son,—Dr. Howard Smith, of New Orleans, the child of his first marriage. A brother and



other relatives reside in this city. The country loses an able and gallant officer by this unexpected event, and a large circle of relatives and acquaintances will mourn the loss of a valued and excellent friend, and most worthy gentleman.

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### CHRISTOPHER SOWER.

THE subject of this memoir left Germany in 1724, arrived in Philadelphia in the fall of that year, proceeded to Germantown, now part of that city, where he remained until the spring of the year following. He was born in 1693, and was a man of superior education and ability, having a mind thoroughly practical, ready and apt in its resources, and of a decidedly inventive turn. The winter of 1724-5, he spent in obtaining a knowledge of the country, especially of the German settlements, and in fixing upon a residence and occupation. During the spring following, he removed to Lancaster County, where he devoted himself principally to farming. He remained there the following six years, returning to Germantown in 1731, where he also occupied himself in agricultural pursuits partly, and partly in the practice and dispensing of medicine, for which he was well qualified by his previous education. He kept up an extensive correspondence with his friends in Germany, in which he frequently dwelt upon the destitute condition of his fellow-countrymen in respect to books, and especially the Bible. Moved by these appeals, large numbers of Bibles were consigned to him, to be sold at cost to those able to buy, or given to those too poor to obtain them otherwise.

He continued to execute this trust some years, and in the meantime procured a printing-press and some materials, and commenced publishing an Almanac, the first number of which was issued in August, 1738. It was of the usual quarto form, still adopted generally in Pennsylvania and some other States, and contained twenty-four pages. The matter consisted of twelve pages of calculations (one for each month); a calculation of eclipses for the coming year; a record of the provincial courts and fairs; chronology of impor-



tant events; tables of high roads and distances; interest tables; a variety of interesting and useful matter, chiefly of a physiological and hygienic character, in plain and simple language; a list of books consigned to him from Germany, and their prices, and one or two advertisements. The publication of the Almanac was continued during his life, and by his son and successor (also named Christopher) until 1777, during which time it was frequently enlarged and improved in various ways. It obtained a high character for its usefulness, and circulated many thousands annually, reaching as far south as Georgia, and wherever there were German settlements in the Colonies.

Immediately upon issuing the Almanac, he was besieged from all quarters to commence a paper or periodical, containing news and such other matter as he thought proper and useful. At first he resisted these applications upon conscientious grounds, but would publish an occasional sheet, printed on one side only, and resembling a newspaper extra, containing important intelligence and other matter. These he circulated gratuitously in the market-places, churches, and other places of public concourse. At length, however, his views were somewhat modified, and he yielded to the importunities of the people, and on the 20th of August, 1739, he issued the first number of a religious and secular journal, entitled "Der Hoch-Deutsch Pennsylvanische Geschicht-Schreiber oder Sämmlung wichtiger Nachrichten aus dem Natur-und Kirchen-Reich."

The paper contains a brief account of various European wars, then raging or about commencing, followed by some serious remarks on the subject, in a religious aspect. It also contains a "Proclamation of the Royal Governor of Pennsylvania, by authority of the King of England, authorizing reprisals to be taken from the Spaniards, for damages done to British commerce, &c. An original poetical effusion follows, exposing the inconsistency of war with Christianity," &c. This paper was a small folio of nine by thirteen inches.

After a time, the title of the paper was changed somewhat; but upon examining several hundred numbers under both titles, religion and morality are found to pervade every page.\*

\* On the 16th October, 1745, he issued proposals for the publication of a new religious

At first it appeared quarterly, but soon was issued twice a month, and finally weekly. In the meantime, it was frequently enlarged, until 1775; one of the weekly numbers contained as much matter as three of the quarterlies, and in a year thirteen times as much reading was furnished as in a year of the quarterlies, notwithstanding which the price per annum remained the same. Its circulation reached the number of eight to ten thousand weekly; it was sent to all parts of the British Colonies, and wielded an unbounded influence over the whole German population. The strong religious tendency of its contents suited the spirit of religious investigation which occupied the minds of the German settlers at that time, most of whom had left the Fatherland on account of the independence with which they promulgated and practised their religious convictions.

Christopher Sower projected, and in the year 1743, after three years of toil and labor, completed a magnificent quarto edition of the Bible in the German language, which in completeness and execution, has never been excelled in this country. The edition consisted of twelve hundred copies, and was printed from the thirty-fourth edition of the Constine Bible Society of Halle, which is still considered as the standard by which all others are corrected. Besides the text of the "Halle Bible," which included the Apocrypha as usually printed, it contained the Third and Fourth Books of Ezra, and Third Book of Maccabees, which were inserted in the Halle edition of 1708, but subsequently omitted. He also inserted the seventh chapter of the Fourth Book of Ezra, which, the writer believes, appears in no other edition. Short summaries preceded each chapter, numerous references to parallel passages were inserted in the text, and the work was commenced with a preface of one page, and concluded by an addenda of four pages, all of solid

quarterly (usual 8vo. size), entitled "Ein Schall und Gegenschall der Wahrheit und des gestündten verstandes, Christliebender Seelen in diesam Americanischer Land theil." The first number appeared in February, 1746. The numbers were soon issued more frequently, but after a time it was discontinued. In 1763, its publication was resumed, under the title of a "Spiritual Magazine," namely, "Das Geistliche Magazin, oder aus den Schätzen der Schriftgelehrten zum Himmelreich gelehrt dar gereichtes altes und neues."

"This Magazine was continued a number of years, and strictly in accordance with the promised plan, and its numbers are still exceedingly interesting."\*

\* See Historical Magazine for February, 1859.

matter, and written by himself; the latter contained an interesting account of the various translations which had been made at different times, and by different authors.

The Old Testament occupied 805 (or including the Apocryphal Books, 995) printed pages, and the New Testament, 277 pages. The whole work covering 1284 pages. The title-pages were printed in two colors, red and black. A few copies were bound without the Apocrypha and other additional matter, in accordance with the desire of the purchasers. The price was twelve shillings unbound, or eighteen shillings bound substantially in strong leather, flexible backs, with bevelled boards and clasps.

It would be impossible, within the limits of this article, to give an idea of the difficulties encountered by Christopher Sower, in prosecuting his great undertaking. Besides those necessarily attending the mechanical execution of the work, selfish and sectarian motives were freely ascribed to him; and so far was this hostility carried, that clergymen were found who denounced the work from their pulpits, even before it was completed; thus forestalling impartial judgment, and at the same time warning their congregations to have nothing to do with it, as it would be a false translation, made to carry out the peculiar theological views of the publishers, &c. To these unjust attacks, the subject of our memoir made no defence, but simply offered to those who had subscribed and afterwards became dissatisfied, the privilege of withdrawing their subscriptions, and receiving back the money they had paid upon them. After the work was completed, however, he triumphantly referred to it, as a sufficient reply to all the calumnies which had been heaped upon him, adding the simple, but severe rebuke, that "instead of his Bible being false, it proved them to be falsifiers." To this day, his edition is so highly prized by the descendants of the original purchasers, that those who own a copy, can scarcely be induced to part with it for any consideration.

In carrying on his extensive printing operations, he soon found himself obliged to make arrangements to manufacture his own paper and ink, and to bind his own books. Accordingly he was soon extensively engaged in these avocations, as the number of his publications rapidly increased after the completion of the Bible. But his greatest perplexity, perhaps, originated in the want of

type, and to overcome this he at once established a type-foundry, having the matrices made under his own superintendence, and teaching his workmen how to cast and finish type. He made not only the type necessary for his own use, but supplied others in the business. This was the first type-foundry in America; and the extensive establishment of L. Johnson & Co., of this city, the largest in the country, and, it is said, in the world, has gradually grown out of it. This alone would entitle Christopher Sower to an honorable position among the benefactors of the nation. His mind was continually active in devising improvements; and the neighborhood in which he lived is full of traditions of the ingenuity and practical utility of many of his inventions.

He was a man of commanding appearance, wearing a long, flowing beard, and with a countenance expressive at once of intellect and meekness. In September, 1758, he died, aged sixty-five years, leaving an only child, a son, also named Christopher, who succeeded him in his extensive business, and enlarged it to an extent which, for that period, would be considered almost incredible. In 1763, this son completed a second edition, consisting of two thousand copies, of the Bible; and, in 1776, a third edition, of three thousand copies. Besides the Bible, newspapers, and almanacs, this son published between one and two hundred other works, in both the English and German languages, most of them large books; many of them passed through from five to seven editions. He employed two or three mills in manufacturing paper, cast his own type, made his own printers' ink, engraved his own wood-cuts, and bound his own publications. He also did an extensive business in putting up and supplying medicines, having a store-room devoted to this business entirely.

Like his father, he was a man of a strong and active mind, an independent thinker, and a ready and fluent speaker and writer. Many of the works he published were translated by himself, and he edited his paper and periodicals unassisted. At an early age he joined the Society of German Baptists (sometimes known as Dunkers), and became a minister and bishop therein. In this connection he was beloved by all who knew him, which included a large proportion of the German population throughout the Colo-



nies. He died in 1784, leaving a large family of children, many of whose descendants continue to devote themselves to the useful occupation of their ancestor.

We are indebted for many of the facts incorporated in this article to two of the descendants of Christopher Sower; one of whom, under disadvantages which would have disheartened any less ardent mind, has formed an immense collection of rare and valuable German literature, including copies of a large proportion of his ancestor's publications. The other is also a zealous collector of facts and publications connected with the subject of this memoir; and we hope that, at some time, one or both of them may collect and embody the information they possess in a more extended narrative of the life of their honored progenitor.

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## BENJAMIN STILLÉ.

BENJAMIN STILLÉ was born October, 1779, and died August, 1854.

The family of Stillé is of Swedish origin, and can trace their ancestry to a very early date of our history. Oloff Stillé emigrated to this country with the first Swedish colony, in the year 1638, bringing a letter of recommendation from Eric Bielke, Lord of Peningby and Nynas, in Upland, Sweden. The Swedes landed on the banks of the Delaware, and there established numerous settlements. Some of these settlements were places of considerable note in their day; and on one of them, Passyunk, afterwards purchased by William Penn from the sons of the Commander Sven, commonly called the Swansons, now stands the city of Philadelphia.

Oloff Stillé's place of residence, marked on Limstrom's Map as "Stillé's Land," was situated on what is at present termed "The Neck;" and is the only homestead, Mr. Watson informs us, now known of any of the Swedish families whose names are on the list first taken in the year 1693 for the information of William Penn. Its Indian name was "Techoperassi;" being "a place on the Schuylkill River, surrounded with water like an island." This



place was much frequented by the Indians, who gave Mr. Stillé the name of "The Man with the Black Beard."

According to Campanius, the place was named from this peculiarity of its owner. In the journal of Colonel Ackem Hubley, of Sullivan's expedition against the Indians, it is said, "The valley was formerly called 'Old Man's Farm.'"

In 1642-48, the Swedes and Finns were the only residents along the Delaware. They being of Scandinavian race, were of light and fair complexion; and, consequently, had light-colored beards. The distinguishing dark features and black hair, in the case of Mr. Stillé, attracted the attention of the Indians; and, as it was an exception, they applied the name "Techoperassi."

Mr. Wayard, in his "Annals," speaks of Stillé's Place, at Tenuicum. Mr. Stillé was much respected by Governor Printz, and was frequently employed on embassies to the Dutch, at New Amsterdam, now New York. A son of Oloff Stillé is honorably mentioned by the late Mr. Duponceau, as present among the number assembled to greet the proprietary, William Penn, on his memorable landing at Newcastle, in the year 1682.

The Swedes are represented as a quiet and industrious people, chiefly occupied with agriculture. Historians inform us that they purchased the land from the Indians, although the title was granted to them by Charles I.

Their respect for religion is evinced by the fact, that they had three churches erected when William Penn arrived, the ministry being supplied by the Church in Sweden.

The history of Gloria Dei Church, or the Swedes' Church, in this city, is identified with the history of the Stillé family. The tombstones of many members of the family still exist in the burying-ground attached. (For some of the above facts, see a "Memoir of the late Dr. Moreton Stillé.") We learn from "Watson's Annals of Philadelphia," that the family of Johan Stillé, in 1693, consisted of eight members, and that the male individuals were "all good men and true," leaving no slur upon the reputation of their descendants.

Mr. John Stillé, the father of the subject of this notice, died in 1802, at an advanced age. The writer well recalls his stately appearance; his peculiar dress, the long-tailed coat and knee-breeches,

the large silver shoe-buckles, and powdered wig, which fashion he retained till his death. Mr. Stillé was eminently Philadelphian. In all questions relating to the welfare of our city he took a lively interest. He was for many years a member of City Councils, a distinction then of much honor, and held several offices of trust and usefulness. He was particularly known for his benevolence and humane efforts during the epidemics of yellow fever that devastated our city in the years 1793 and '98. At that time, his disinterested kindness was the subject of much comment.

Mr. Stillé was one of those that took an active part in the arrangements for the "Federal Procession," in the year 1788, and paraded on that occasion. The writer well remembers the high respect in which he was held by the old citizens of the last century.

Mr. Stillé married Mary Boyd, who survived until 1823. Of this excellent Christian mother it is not our province here to speak.

Mr. Benjamin Stillé, at an early age, married into the Owen family, a union which lasted over fifty-one years, Mrs. Stillé dying in February, 1854.

In "Proud's History of Pennsylvania," we find frequent and honorable mention of this ancient family. The Owens were of Welsh origin, and came to this country in 1682. Mr. Proud thus speaks of this family: "Robert Owen and Jane his wife were both pious and honorable persons, of good family, education, and abilities, and had suffered much persecution for their religion, being Quakers. He was a skilful peace-maker, and of much service and utility in various respects." From the provincial history of Pennsylvania we find some members of the Owen family to have been members of "Assembly," from 1685 to 1740. Dr. Griffith Owen was the friend and adviser of Governor Evans, from the arrival of the latter in 1703. Mr. Proud thus writes, vol. ii, p. 99: "In the latter part of the year 1717, died Dr. Griffith Owen, of Philadelphia. He came to Pennsylvania among the early settlers, and was said to be of great and eminent service among them in divers capacities. . . . In the civil department, his merit and abilities raised him to several public stations, wherein he acted with judgment and integrity, being long one of the Governor's Council, &c. But his practice as a physician, in which he was very know-

ing and eminent, rendered him of still greater value and importance. With these qualities, he is said to have preserved the sincerity and meekness of a true Christian, and died much beloved by a large acquaintance of people of different ranks and societies."

Mr. Stillé was a distinguished merchant of Philadelphia for more than fifty years. He was cotemporary with Stephen Girard, Joseph Sims, Samuel Archer, Alexander Henry, Henry Platt, Robert Ralston, and other celebrated wholesale merchants and shippers of our city.

The style of the firm was John Stillé & Co. This house was, for many years, identified with the shipping interest of this port. Mr. John Stillé was the oldest son, and was one of our most successful merchants, doing at that time a very extensive East India trade. This house did all the business for the Messrs. Gray of Boston. Mr. John Stillé was, for many years, a Director of the old or first United States Bank.

Upon the retirement of the senior partners, the business was continued by the two brothers, Benjamin and Samuel; the latter died suddenly, in 1817, being in the prime of life. Mr. Benjamin Stillé continued the business until 1832. Mr. Stillé, with a commendable pride, has related to the writer the interesting fact, that the first piece of American muslin sold in this city was consigned to him from the eastward. Mr. Stillé did a large eastern business, and had correspondence with most of the Salem and Boston merchants of that day, to wit, the Grays, N. Silsbee, Crowninshields, Beverly, Pickering, &c.

Mr. Stillé retired about twenty years before his death upon a handsome competency, but always took a lively interest in commercial affairs. In the welfare of our various public and philanthropic institutions he took an active part. During his long commercial career, he sustained an enviable reputation for enterprise, integrity, and unsullied honor. Mr. Stillé at the time of his decease was one of our oldest and most respected citizens. He died, at his residence on Chestnut Street, where he had lived for forty years of his life, at the age of seventy-five years. He was a man of most liberal sentiments, of kindly feelings, and enlightened views. His simple and unostentatious manners, his ever ready and genial hospitality won for him many warm friends.

He was a rare specimen of the true Christian gentleman. In conjunction with Alexander Henry, Robert Ralston, Captain Moore, and some others, he originated the prayer-meetings, for a long time held in the old church formerly at the corner of Third and Arch Streets.

Mr. Stillé, at the time of his death, was a Ruling Elder in the Second Presbyterian Church, now under the pastoral charge of the Rev. Mr. Shields, and formerly the scene of the venerable Dr. Cuyler's labors. Mr. Stillé was much beloved in the congregation with which he was officially connected.

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## WILLIAM STRICKLAND.

WHEN the subject of this memoir was born we have not been able to ascertain, but he was about sixty-five years of age when he died. He was brought up in Latrobe's office, and evidenced much skill as a draughtsman. He designed many of the most prominent buildings in Philadelphia, such as the old Masonic Hall, the Mint, the Exchange, the Naval Asylum, the Mechanics' and Philadelphia Banks, the Bank of the United States, Chestnut Street, the Blockley Almshouse, and many others. He was also well skilled in engineering, and had many important works intrusted to his charge.

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## LOUIS ANASTASIUS TARASCON.

LOUIS ANASTASIUS TARASCON, a French gentleman, emigrated in 1794 from France, and established himself in Philadelphia. He was a large importer of silks, and all kinds of French and German goods. Being very wealthy and enterprising, in 1799 he sent two of his clerks, Charles Brugiere and James Berthoud, to examine the course of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers from Pittsburg to New Orleans, and ascertain the practicability of sending ships, and clear-



ing them from Pittsburg, ready rigged, to the West Indies and Europe. Those two gentlemen returned to Philadelphia, reported favorably, and Mr. Tarascon associated them and his brother, John Anthony, with himself, under the firm of John A. Tarascon, Brothers, James Berthoud & Co., and immediately established in Pittsburg a large wholesale and retail store and warehouse, a ship-yard, a rigging and sail-loft, an anchor-smith shop, a block manufactory, and, in short, everything necessary to complete vessels for sea. The first year, 1801, they built the schooner Amity, of 120 tons, and the ship Pittsburg, of 250 tons, and sent the former, loaded with flour, to St. Thomas, and the other, also loaded with flour, to Philadelphia, from whence they sent them to Bordeaux, and brought back a cargo of wine, brandy, and other French goods, part of which they sent here in wagons at a cost of six to eight cents per pound for transportation. In 1802, they built the brig Nanino, of 250 tons; in 1803, the ship Louisiana, of 300 tons; and in 1804, the ship Western Trader, of 400 tons.

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## CHARLES THOMSON.

CHARLES THOMSON, the "perpetual secretary" of the old Revolutionary Congress from 1775, was a man of literary tastes, who, when he had long served his country, and become to his contemporaries one of the best known and most respected personages of our early political annals, occupied the remainder of his life in composition, publishing a translation of the Old and New Testaments. He was born in Ireland, in 1729, and came to America at the age of eleven. His father died on the passage, and he was thrown on his own resources in Maryland. One of his brothers assisted him in entering the school of Dr. Alison, at Thunder Hill, in that State. Books were scarce, and a single lexicon did duty for the whole school. A story is told of the boy's eagerness in pursuit of an intellectual pleasure. One of his schoolfellows came down from Philadelphia, bringing with him an odd volume of "The Spectator." Thomson read it with great delight, and learning



that an entire set could be purchased at a certain place for the small stock of money which he had at command, without asking permission, he set off on foot for Philadelphia to buy it. Having obtained it, he returned, when the motive of his journey was taken as sufficient excuse for the truant. An anecdote like this is worth a volume in illustrating the character of the man, and the state of literature in America at the time. At Dr. Alison's seminary he learned Greek, Latin, and mathematics enough to undertake a Friends' Academy in Philadelphia, which he conducted with credit. He was an ardent republican; and immediately upon the assembling of the old Continental Congress of 1774, was chosen its Secretary. John Adams, at the time, in his Diary, describes him as "the Sam. Adams of Philadelphia, the life of the cause of liberty." He retained his post of Secretary with every Congress till the close of the war, and was chosen as the person to inform Washington, at Mount Vernon, of his nomination to the Presidency. His services to Congress were very efficient, and the repute of his integrity gained him the name, with the Indians, of "The Man of Truth."

The Rev. Ashbel Green, President of the College of New Jersey, in his Autobiography, says of the sacred regard for truth which marked the statements of the old Congress, that it became a proverb, " 'It's as true as if Charles Thomson's name was to it.' " He was tall of stature, well proportioned, and of primitive simplicity of manners. He was one of the best classical scholars that our country has ever produced. He made three or four transcriptions of his translations of the whole Bible, from the Septuagint of the Old Testament, and from the original of the New; still endeavoring in each to make improvements on his former labors. After our Revolutionary War was terminated, and before the adoption of the present Constitution of the United States, our country was in a very deplorable state, and many of our surviving patriotic fathers, and Mr. Thomson among the rest, could not easily rid themselves of gloomy apprehensions. Mr. Thomson's resource was the study of the Four Gospels, in the language of his own version."

In person, Mr. Thomson was remarkable. The Abbé Robin, who was in the country with Rochambeau, found him at Philadel-

phia "the soul of the body politic," and was struck with his meagre and furrowed countenance, his hollow and sparkling eyes, and white erect hair. This description, in 1781, does not argue a condition of perfect health, yet Thomson lived till 1824, dying at the venerable age of ninety-five years.

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## EDWARD TILGHMAN.

EDWARD TILGHMAN, an eminent lawyer of Philadelphia, was a native of Maryland, born on the Eastern Shore of that State, December 11, 1750. His academical education was obtained at the best schools of Philadelphia; but his law studies were mostly in the Middle Temple, London, of which he was a student in the year 1772; and during the two following years he was a constant attendant in the Courts of Westminster Hall. On the completion of his legal education, he returned to Philadelphia, and was admitted to the Bar of that city, where he was for a long time a successful practitioner. He was a talented advocate; always familiar with the facts and the law relating to his cases; highly accomplished in the use of language; a clear-headed logician; fluent, without the least volubility; and comprehended by almost the lowest order of understandings, while he was dealing with the most exalted topics. With such qualifications, he held a position among the highest in the profession; and on the death of Chief Justice Shippen, of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, Governor McKean tendered him the office; but he declined it, and recommended for the appointment his kinsman, William Tilghman, mentioned in another article, who so much adorned that station by his learning and virtues. He had a great aversion to authorship and public office, and hence left only a few memorials of his high attainments.

He died, November 1st, 1815, in the sixty-fifth year of his age.

## WILLIAM TILGHMAN.

WILLIAM TILGHMAN was born on the 12th August, 1756, upon the estate of his father, in Talbot County, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, about a mile from the town of Easton.

His paternal great-grandfather, Richard Tilghman, emigrated to that Province, from Kent County, in England, about the year 1662, and settled on Chester River, in Queen Anne's County.

His father, James Tilghman, a distinguished lawyer, is well known to the profession in Pennsylvania as Secretary to the Proprietary Land-office, and as having brought that department, by the accuracy of his mind and the steadiness of his purpose, into a system as much remarked for order and equity, as from its early defects it threatened to be otherwise.

His maternal grandfather was Tench Francis, the elder, of Philadelphia, one of the most eminent lawyers of the Province, the brother of Richard Francis, author of "Maxims of Equity," and of Dr. Philip Francis, the translator of Horace.

It is not surprising to find, among the collateral ancestors of the late Chief Justice, the author of one of the earliest compends of scientific Equity, and a scholar accomplished in the literature of the age of Augustus.

In 1762, his family removed from Maryland to Philadelphia. In the succeeding year he was placed at the Academy, and in the regular progress of the classes came under the instruction of Mr. Beveridge, from whom he received his foundation in Latin and Greek.

Upon the death of Beveridge, his place was filled provisionally by Mr. Wallis, who was perfectly skilled in the prosody of those languages, and who imparted to his pupils an accuracy, of which the Chief Justice was a striking example.

Dr. Davidson, the author of the grammar, succeeded Beveridge, and with him the subject of our memoir remained till he entered the College, in the year 1769, Dr. Smith being then the Provost, and Dr. Francis Allison the Vice-Provost, the latter of whom instructed

the students in the higher Greek and Latin classics ; and such was the devotion to literature of the eminent pupil of whom we are writing, that after he had received the Bachelor's degree, and was, in the ordinary sense, prepared for a profession, he continued for some time to read the classics with the benefit of Dr. Allison's prelections.

In February, 1772, he began the study of the law, in this city, under the direction of the late Benjamin Chew, then at the head of his profession.

From 1776 to 1783, partly on his father's estate, and partly at Chestertown, whither his family had removed, he continued to pursue his legal studies, reading deeply and laboriously, as he has himself recorded, and applying his intervals of leisure to the education of a younger brother. When, therefore, in the spring of 1783, he was admitted to the courts of Maryland, we may infer that an apprenticeship of eleven years had filled his mind with legal principles, sufficient to guide and enlighten him the rest of his life.

In 1788, and for some successive years, he was elected a representative to the Legislature of Maryland.

In 1793, a few months previous to his marriage with Miss Margaret Allen, the daughter of Mr. James Allen, he returned to this city, and commenced the practice of the law, which he prosecuted until his appointment by President Adams, on the 3d March, 1801, as Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of the United States for this circuit.

His powers as an advocate, but more especially his learning and judgment, were held in great respect by this community, surrounded, notwithstanding, as he was, by men of the first eminence in the land. His law arguments were remarkable for the distinctness with which he presented his case, and for the perspicuity and accuracy with which his legal references were made to sustain it. He was concise, simple, occasionally nervous, and uniformly faithful to the court, as he was to his client.

The court in which his judicial ability was first made known, had but a short existence.

After the abolition of the Circuit Court, Mr. Tilghman resumed the practice of the profession, and continued it until the 31st July,



1805, when he was appointed President of the Court of Common Pleas, in the first district.

He remained but a few months in the Common Pleas. In the beginning of the year 1806, Mr. Shippen, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, yielded to the claims of a venerable old age by retiring from the office, and on the 25th February, Mr. Tilghman was commissioned in his place by Governor McKean, himself a great lawyer and Judge, and interested as a father in the court which he had led on to distinguished reputation in the United States.

In addition to these strictly official duties, the Legislature of Pennsylvania committed to the Judges of the Supreme Court, in the year 1807, the critical duty of reporting the English statutes in force within this commonwealth. The duty is called *critical*, for so undoubtedly it was considered by the Chief Justice. The service exacted an unlimited knowledge of our colonial legislation, and of the practice and administration of the law in the Province.

The labors thus recited, in addition to what we know to have been performed at Nisi Prius, and in circuit through the State, entitle this eminent Judge to the praise of great industry, a virtue which it is an offence against morality to call humble, in one who is the keeper both of his own talent, and not seldom of that of others also. It was, however, industry of the highest order,—a constant action of the intellect practically applied. He died in 1827.—  
*From Hon. Horace Binney's Remarks before the Philadelphia Bar.*

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## COMMODORE THOMAS TRUXTON.

COMMODORE THOMAS TRUXTON, an officer of the American Navy, was born on Long Island, in 1755. In 1775, he obtained the command of a vessel, and distinguished himself by his depredations on British commerce during the Revolution. He subsequently engaged in commerce till the year 1794, when he was appointed Commander of the frigate *L'Insurgente*; and in the following year obtained a victory over the *La Vengeance*. At the termination of



the difficulties with France, he retired from the navy, and settled in Philadelphia, where he died, in 1822, honored and highly respected.

October 8th, 1816, he was elected High Sheriff of the City and County of Philadelphia.

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## ROBERT TURNER.

ONE of the most prominent of the early colonists of Pennsylvania was Robert Turner, an Irish gentleman of property, who had embraced the doctrines of the Society of Friends.

He was an intimate friend and confidential adviser of William Penn, and was one of that company of twenty-four gentlemen, consisting of James, Earl of Perth, William Penn, Robert Barclay, and others, who purchased East Jersey from the estate of Carteret.

Carteret died in 1679, and the purchase was completed in England, in February, 1681-2, a short time before the sailing of the *Welcome*; and in 1683, we find that Mr. Turner was one of the first jury empanelled in Philadelphia.

He therefore came to this country about the same time as Penn.

Mr. Watson, in his *Annals*, has preserved two letters from Penn to Turner, both dated in 1681, and directed to "Robert Turner, merchant, in Dublin, Ireland," and states that the first of these letters "was the first letter written by Mr. Penn, after getting to the confirmation of his Province."

In 1684, Penn returned to England, and Robert Turner and four others were appointed Judges by him, receiving a commission to govern the Colony in his absence. Penn, in a letter dated Holland House, England, 27th 10th mo. 1687, and directed to Thomas Lloyd, Robert Turner, John Eckle, John Simcock, and Arthur Cook, Commissioners of State, says: "Robert Turner of course has the chair for the first month, after the receipt of this, and the rest alternately; monthly, if you find it convenient." But the reason for this preference is not stated.

In 1689, he was again appointed one of five Commissioners to administer the Government.

Mr. Turner, together with Thomas Lloyd and James Claypoole, were empowered by Penn to sign patents and grant warrants for land; and as he also possessed large bodies of land himself, which were continually being sold to settlers and others, very many of the deeds of property now held in Philadelphia emanate from him, either in his private or official capacity.

Proud, in speaking of Keith and the schism which he created, states that, "some of the principal persons who adhered to Keith were men of rank, character, and reputation, such as Robert Turner and Francis Rawle, &c. &c."

But it would seem that they were exceptions, as most of the prominent men of the Colony took the other side of the controversy.

Considering Mr. Turner's intimacy with Penn, it is rather surprising that he should have yielded to the doctrines of Keith, and no explanation of the circumstances of the case has been given by either of our principal local historians.

It is a fact worth noting, in this wilderness of brick in which we now live, that Mr. Turner's residence was the first brick house ever erected in Philadelphia.

The evidence of this fact is found in an interesting letter from Mr. Turner to William Penn, in 1685. He there says, "Since I built my brick house at Front and Arch Streets, the foundation of which was laid at my going, which I design after a good manner, to encourage others; it being the first, many take example, and some that built wooden houses are sorry for it."

This letter is preserved in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Turner died intestate, about 1700, leaving no son, but two married daughters, who inherited his large estate.

From one of these daughters the Leaming family are descended, and from the other the Rawle family.

A portion of the Coleman, Pemberton, and Fisher families, with one or two other Philadelphia names, are also descendants.

## REV. DUDLEY A. TYNG.

MR. TYNG was a son of Rev. Stephen H. Tyng, D.D., by his first wife. He was born in Prince George's County, Maryland, in 1825, while his father was rector of St. George's Parish, in that county. He was educated in Philadelphia, while his father was rector of the Church of the Epiphany. He graduated at the University of Pennsylvania, and received his theological education at the seminary in Alexandria. The first ministerial charge he had was at Columbus, in Ohio. Subsequently, he had charge of the Episcopal Church at Charlestown, Va., and was called thence to the rectorship of one of the most influential churches in Cincinnati.

After the death, in 1854, of Rev. Mr. Fowles, rector of the Church of the Epiphany, in this city, the vestry gave Mr. Tyng a unanimous call to fill the pulpit which his distinguished father had adorned. The call was accepted, and he remained in that position for about a year, when an unfortunate difference between him and part of his congregation, in regard to the propriety of referring to public questions in the pulpit, led to his resignation. A number of his friends organized a new parish, under the title of the Church of the Covenant, and of this congregation he was the minister. The design was to build a new church for him, and in the meantime the regular services of the parish were held in Concert Hall. Mr. Tyng leaves a wife (formerly Miss Stevens, daughter of James Stevens, of Hoboken, New Jersey) and five children. His residence, for several years, was at Brookfield, some ten miles from the city, where the accident occurred that caused his death.

He died April 20th, 1858. His death was caused by an accident from a threshing-machine.

## JOHN VAUGHAN.

BY THE REV. WILLIAM H. FURNESS.

JOHN VAUGHAN died in Philadelphia, December 30th, 1841, at the close of his eighty-sixth year. Mr. Vaughan, born in England, was, for half a century, a resident of this city. No one of our citizens has ever been more widely known. His activity in behalf of the best objects was unwearied. The delight which other men take in making money, he took in rendering services, in discharging benevolent offices. He would go from one end of the city to the other to obtain employment for an honest man. He was "given to hospitality." In this respect he gave a character to our city; and, in the minds of hosts of strangers from all parts of the country and from abroad, the name of Mr. Vaughan represented the city as faithfully as its own name, "Brotherly Love." He took pleasure in bringing such persons together as, by similarity of tastes or pursuits, would find peculiar satisfaction in one another's company. This, his office as Librarian of the American Philosophical Society, gave him special facilities in doing. Around his breakfast table, in the Society's rooms, were often found, in his later years, the most eminent men of the land. On one occasion we met there John Quincy Adams, Channing, and Albert Gallatin.

Mr. Vaughan was one of the few men who might be permitted to live here for an indefinite period without loss of a due interest in life. His vivacity never wore out: it was the vivacity of a child. To every new generation that came upon the stage he attached himself with new heartiness. He was at home and in full sympathy with the young.

## GEORGE VAUX.

BY THOMAS I. WHARTON.

MR. VAUX was a cousin of Roberts Vaux ; and, like him, a native of Philadelphia, and a member of the Society of Friends ; warmly attached to the place of his birth, and proud of her institutions and habits, but no less attached to the comforts and charms of private and domestic life ; and one of that class of gentlemen, unfortunately, perhaps, too numerous in this country, whom no earthly consideration could induce to take part in the management of public affairs, or to mingle in the bustle and scramble of politics, "*fumum strepitumque Romæ.*" Mr. Vaux studied the law for a profession, but did not undertake the practice of it ; having sufficient fortune, and no ambition for forensic distinction. Although averse from political life, he served, with credit and usefulness, in our municipal Councils ; and we are indebted, among other things, to his good taste and scientific knowledge, for the opening and improvement of the beautiful square west of the Athenæum, and for the selection of the numerous trees by which it is embellished.

Mr. Vaux died in 1836, only a few days after his cousin, Roberts Vaux, and in the fifty-sixth year of his age. He married a daughter of William Sansom.

## ROBERTS VAUX.

ROBERTS VAUX, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, was born at Philadelphia on the 21st day of January, 1786.

Of the family, which was ancient and respectable, it is known that, having migrated from France, the country of their origin, to England, they were settled in the county of Sussex, in possession of a large estate, a portion of which was lost in the Revolution of



1688. George Vaux, the great-grandfather of Roberts Vaux, was born on his paternal estate near Reigate, in 1671. He was a man of learning, and had a valuable library, including a curious and extensive collection of manuscript works, on vellum. The Philadelphia Library contains a Latin Bible, written in 1016, which belonged to him, and which was sent by his son, in 1768, as a present to the institution. He was a physician, became a member of the Society of Friends, and died in 1741.

Roberts Vaux, the subject of our sketch, was educated at the Friends' Academy, an institution of which, it may be remarked, that it was the first, in point of date, of our incorporated schools. His Latin teacher was James Thompson; his mathematical instructor, John D. Craig. At the age of eighteen, he was placed in the counting-house of John Cooke, a merchant of high standing. After twenty-one, he engaged in mercantile business for a short time, two or three years only, when, controlled by a pious obligation, assumed under circumstances of deep solemnity, he devoted himself to the welfare of his fellow-creatures.

He was a member of the Society for the Establishment and Support of Charity Schools, as early as 1807; a member of the Philadelphia Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons; he was one of the founders of the Apprentices' Library Company, the Philadelphia Saving Fund Society, and of the House of Refuge. He was also connected with the most distinguished literary and learned bodies of Philadelphia. It may be sufficient to mention the Academy of Natural Sciences, the Linnæan Society, the Franklin Institute, the American Philosophical Society, and the Atheneum.

In 1817, he published "Memoirs of the Life of Anthony Benezet."

In 1833, he was appointed by the President, with the advice of the Senate, a Director of the Bank of the United States. This position he declined. He had been previously designated by President Jackson, Commissioner to treat with the Indians; this position he also declined.

With a mind full of Christian firmness and composure, he expired, on the 7th of January, 1836, being within a few days of fifty years of age.

## HORACE BINNEY WALLACE.

MR. WALLACE, the son of John B. Wallace, an eminent lawyer of Philadelphia, was born in that city, February 26th, 1817. The first two years of his collegiate course were passed at the University of Pennsylvania, and the remaining portion at Princeton College, where he graduated in 1835. He studied with great thoroughness the science of the law, and at the age of twenty-seven contributed Notes to "Smith's Selections of Leading Cases in Various Branches of the Law," "White and Tudor's Selections of Leading Cases in Equity," and "Decisions of American Courts in Several Departments of the Law," which have been adopted with commendation by the highest legal authorities.

His attention was, however, by no means confined to professional study. He devoted much time to scientific study, and projected several theories on subjects connected therewith, while in literature he produced an anonymous novel, "Stanley," which, with many faults of construction, contains passages of admirably expressed thoughts.

Mr. Wallace published a number of articles anonymously in various periodicals. He was much interested in philosophical speculation, and bestowed much attention on the theory of Comte, by whom he was highly prized.

In April, 1849, Mr. Wallace sailed for Europe, and passed a year in England, Germany, France, and Italy. On his return, he devoted himself, with renewed energy, to literary pursuits. He projected a series of works on commercial law, in the preparation of which he proposed to devote a year or two at a foreign university to the exclusive study of the civil law. In the spring of 1852 his eyesight became impaired, owing, as was afterwards discovered, to the incipient stages of congestion of the brain, produced by undue mental exertion. By advice of his physicians, he embarked, on the 13th of November, for Liverpool. Finding no improvement in his condition on his arrival, he at once proceeded to Paris in quest of medical advice. His cerebral disease increased, and led to his death, at Paris, on the 16th of December following.

## NICHOLAS WALN.

NICHOLAS WALN was the son of Nicholas and Mary Waln, and was born on the 19th of September, 1742, at Fair Hill, a country place, near Philadelphia. He was deprived of a father's care before he knew the value of it; or when he was about eight years of age; but was tenderly and affectionately cared for by his mother, who brought him up, aided by the guardianship of her brother, Jacob Shoemaker.

Soon after his father's decease, he was placed at a school, under the care of Friends; an institution founded by charter, granted by William Penn. The name of the Society of Friends is not mentioned in the charter, the seminary being called "The Public School" in that instrument; but, as it was founded by William Penn and his contemporaries, and as the incorporation was granted to overseers, chosen or named to him by the Monthly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia, with power to elect their own members forever thereafter, it is emphatically "a school under the care of Friends," though not under the direction of the Society, nor subject to the control of any Monthly or other meeting.

Immediately after leaving school, and while yet a mere lad, he commenced the study of the law, under Joseph Galloway.

There is no evidence of his religious feelings, or secret convictions of truth, during this period of his life, but in his own allusions to them, long after he had relinquished the practice of the law. He was naturally vivacious, witty, and sarcastic. He delighted in gaiety and merriment, but suffered nothing to interfere with his studies; and, while yet a minor, was admitted to practice in the courts, and, it is said, "he met with great encouragement." There is no doubt this was the case; he had talents and energy enough; but good judges of these first efforts at the Bar deemed them premature.

Upon adverting to the records of Chester County, it appears he was entered for the first time on the record of the Court of Common Pleas in 1763, in a case, "February Term," in which he was

defendant; and that "he was employed in seven other cases to the same term. In the record of the suits brought to the succeeding May Term, his name occurs three times; and a single case was all that he had to the August term." In all this time he was under twenty-one years of age.

Whatever might have been the opinions of others of his abilities at this time, he certainly was not satisfied himself, and he resolved further to prosecute his studies. With this view he embarked at Chester for Bristol, Great Britain, the tenth month, 1763, a few weeks after he entered the twenty-second year of his age; and, upon his arrival in England, proceeded to London, where he immured himself in the Temple, and entered upon his studies anew. When he had passed through his new course of studies he returned to Philadelphia, after an absence of little more than a year, and resumed the practice of the law.

The fluency with which he spoke the German language, his cheerful, pleasing, and amiable manners, together with their confidence in his integrity, soon made him a favorite with the Germans, and opened, in addition to his Philadelphia business, an extensive and profitable practice in the county courts, particularly at Lancaster and Easton; and, during a period of nearly seven years, he seems to have devoted every faculty of his mind to his profession, and apparently with a view to make money.

A distinguished law character, having taken the pains to examine the records of Lancaster, writes thus: "His name first appears to a suit brought in August Term, 1765; and it very frequently occurs after that until he declined practice. The only one living here (Lancaster), who was a fellow practitioner with him, is Mr. George Ross, the son of him who signed the Declaration of Independence. He remembers Mr. Waln well, and speaks of his character and standing at the Bar as highly respectable."

"When he first came to the Chester County Bar, McKean, Chew, Galloway, Ross, Dickinson, Read, and Price, were in full practice. Johnson, also, had some business. During his absence abroad, Tilghman, Morris, and Shippen, appear to have been admitted. From 1765 to the time of his quitting the profession, his practice continually increased, notwithstanding the crowded state of the Bar and the great ability of his competitors."



“ And to crown his brilliant career at the Bar, he married Sarah Richardson, an only child of Joseph Richardson, of Philadelphia, of large fortune ; and, what was infinitely of more value, possessed of every endowment that could render the married life agreeable and happy.” Their marriage was at Friends’ Meeting-house, on Pine Street, Philadelphia, the 22d of 5th mo. 1771.

His friend, Thomas Austin, who resided near Pennypack, on the middle road from Philadelphia to Newtown, informed a friend that Nicholas called at his house, on his way to Newtown, where the courts for Bucks County were then held, and in the course of conversation told Thomas “ that he was engaged in an important case, that was to come before the court, relative to property.” Austin requested him to stop at his house on his return. Nicholas did so ; when Austin asked him how the case he had spoken of was issued ? Nicholas replied, “ I did the best I could for my client, gained the cause for him, and thereby defrauded an honest man out of his just due.” This account was given by Joshua Comly, of Mooreland, lately deceased ; and he related further, as from his own knowledge, that “ Nicholas Waln relinquished the practice of the law at that time, and would never plead a cause after the circumstance related by Austin.”

“ In 1783 and 1795, he went on religious visits from America to Europe.

“ After his conversion, he became a truly pious, preaching, and praying member of the Society of Friends. Had he continued at the Bar, he might probably, in the course of events, have reached the first honors of his country. He should not, however, without those honors, be regarded as much the less a patriot.”

He deceased, the 29th of the 9th month, 1813, aged seventy-one years and ten days, and his burial was an occasion that brought a very large concourse of people together.



## ROBERT WALN.

ROBERT WALN, a distinguished citizen of Philadelphia, was born in the year 1765.

He was descended from an English family of respectability, who resided near Settle, in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Nicholas Waln, of Chapelcroft, the founder of this family in America, and great-grandfather of Mr. Robert Waln, was an Englishman of substance and standing, who, together with his relatives, Richard Waln, of Burholme, and the Walns of Heyheade, had espoused the cause and doctrines of the Quakers.

The records of the Society of Friends show that this family were among its adherents as early as the year 1654, and suffered certain of the penalties then inflicted by the Church of England upon Non-conformists.

At this time, religious tyranny was producing a religious revolution. Paramount to all else became the desire for religious liberty; and comfortable homes were abandoned for a wilderness, where freedom of worship could be secured.

Nicholas Waln, instigated by such feelings, and by the inducements held out by William Penn, came with him to this country in 1682. Before leaving England, he purchased from Penn a thousand acres of land in Pennsylvania, with the right to locate the same on arrival. For this land he is said to have paid one thousand pounds, the "privilege of locating" being deemed an equivalent for the high price. Penn marked off the Manor, near Bristol, as his own, and Mr. Waln located his land as near as possible to this place, believing it would be the site of the future city.

In this he was mistaken; but having made various other purchases after his arrival, he became possessed of a tract of land running in an oblique direction from the Schuylkill to the Delaware, upon part of which the city was finally built. Portions of this property are still in possession of his descendants.

Mr. Waln took a leading part in the affairs of the early settlers. He at first resided in Bucks County, at Newtown, which place is



said to have been named after the village of that name near his residence in England.

In 1683, he represented this county in the first Legislature of Pennsylvania, and was appointed a member of the first grand jury which acted as a court of justice.

He was re-elected in 1687, and in 1692 was one of the signers of the declaration and testimony against Keith. In 1695, he was again elected to the Legislature, and afterwards removed to Philadelphia.

In 1701, he represented the city of Philadelphia in the Legislature, and was re-elected to the same office in 1702, 1703, and 1704. Robert Proud, in commenting upon the Legislature of that day, says, "It was composed of men of the most note for wisdom, ability, and integrity."

In 1711, Mr. Waln was appointed, together with Logan, Norris, Shippen, and some others, a Director of the first public school. He died, in 1721, at an advanced age, having won the esteem of his fellow-citizens by a life of probity and usefulness.

His descendant, Mr. Robert Waln, the subject of this memoir, inherited a handsome estate, and embarking in business in the firm of Jesse & Robert Waln, became one of the most prominent merchants of Philadelphia. The firm was at first largely engaged in the West India and English shipping business, and subsequently for many years, in the East India and China trade. Our city at that time enjoyed a monopoly of this business, and the house became widely known and respected. Mr. Waln was a member of our State Legislature for some years, and in 1798, during the administration of John Adams, he was elected to Congress by the city of Philadelphia. At that time, the House boasted a galaxy of the most brilliant statesmen of the day: Gallatin, Otis, Rutledge, Pinckney, Livingston, Bayard, John Randolph, and Henry Lee being among the most conspicuous.

Politics raged high during this and the next session, and the interest in Congress was increased in consequence of the Presidential Election, being thrown into the House.

Mr. Waln was an unwavering Federalist, and Mr. Jefferson being elected, he found himself with the minority on most subjects of public interest. But he proved himself well worthy of the confi-

dence of his constituents; and his untiring exertions in the numerous committees to which he was appointed, attest the faithfulness with which his mission was fulfilled.

During the sixth session of Congress, on one occasion, Mr. Waln presented a petition from certain persons regarding the Slave-trade and Fugitive Slave Law, which strikingly displayed the jealousy of the South on this subject even at that early day. It was a paper moderate in tone, wise in its provisions, and dictated by the best feelings of humanity. Its only object being to ameliorate the condition of an unfortunate race. No right of the South was infringed upon. Abolitionism was unknown.

But the Southern members, in their extreme watchfulness, conceived some subtle poison to be lurking under this benevolent design, and violently opposed it. Mr. Rutledge, of South Carolina, and John Randolph, of Virginia, were its most earnest opponents, Mr. Gallatin and Mr. Waln among its principal defenders.

As the contest became more general, the excited tone indulged in by some of the assailants of the petition was strongly contrasted with the courteous and dignified bearing of the two members from Pennsylvania. Even the right of presenting a petition on the subject was denied.

Mr. Waln, while disclaiming any connection with the paper presented, and avowing only a partial approval of its contents, firmly contended for the right of petition, in which he was naturally supported by the more conservative of the contestants.

During the war of 1812, Mr. Waln erected a cotton factory on an estate which he had inherited in the town of Trenton. It was considered a large establishment at the time, and was one of the first cotton factories built in this country. He had also a large interest in Iron Works at Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, and his attention being thus drawn to the subject of domestic manufactures, he soon became distinguished by his able advocacy of the doctrine of protection.

The war of 1812 had proved the necessity of fostering our infant manufactures. The people were dependent for their clothing upon British looms, and the expediency of governmental protection was widely acknowledged. The result was the tariff of 1816, which was in great part a Southern measure, and in many of its enactments almost prohibitory. Boston and New York, believing it to

be injurious to their commerce, were its violent opponents. Free trade was a popular catchword, and its cause was assisted in Congress by the boldness and energy of Mr. Cankeling, the Chairman of the Committee of Commerce. The contest between the two parties was kept up through the passing of the tariffs of 1824 and 1828, and called forth the best talent of the country. While the excitement was at its height, there appeared in Boston a pamphlet known as the "Boston Report," written with great show of knowledge and ability by one of her most distinguished merchants, Mr. Henry Lee.

The formidable array of figures, the positive tone and speciousness of reasoning in this document, imposed upon the public, and the cause of "Protection" seemed lost. The friends of the tariff were disheartened. Conventions of the party were held in various places, and finally "The Pennsylvanian Society for the Encouragement of Manufactures," one of the most important of these associations, fixed upon Mr. Waln as the person most fitted from his ability and general knowledge to cope with so powerful an antagonist, and committed to him the task of refuting this "Report." His reply was most triumphant. The fallacies of Lee and Cankeling were clearly exposed, their errors of fact and of reasoning demonstrated, and the soundness of the policy of "Protection" at that time established.

Mr. Waln was a Quaker in principles, and a regular attendant of the meetings of that Society, although he did not conform to their peculiarities of dress and language. During the controversy with Elias Hicks, he published a series of letters to that person, under the title of "Seven Letters to Elias Hicks," which attracted great attention at the time, and were supposed to have had an excellent effect in confirming the faith of many in the original doctrines of the Society of Friends.

Through a long life, Mr. Waln filled many positions in various institutions of our city, and was conspicuous for ability and integrity, for public spirit and benevolence. He was, for a long time, a member of Councils; and, at one time, President of the Select Council. For many years President of the Chamber of Commerce, President of the Philadelphia Insurance Company, the first President of the Mercantile Library Company, a Director in the Penn-









with him on his first voyage, and landed with him at Chester, in October, 1682.

The lives of the founders of Pennsylvania were regulated by immutable principles of action. They recognized and followed implicitly "the light which shineth in every man." They considered all beyond its rays as out of their jurisdiction. These traits distinguish even to the present day their descendants.

Could the sons of Pennsylvania be induced to parade the mendacity which solicits notice by systematic and chronic self-laudation, to practise the cohesion that promotes self-interest by a combination of purpose and action which our fellow-citizens of New England have monopolized, until their "Plymouth Rock" has become the blarney-stone of America, the lives of the founders and first purchasers of this great State would exhibit the deeds of men, missionaries and lawgivers, which are models for imitation even to this advanced age of civilization; and which would surpass, in simple grandeur, the fictitious glories of which "The Mayflower," and "The Puritan Fathers," in fulsome declamation, are the perennial factitations!

Jacob S. Waln was the son of Richard and Elizabeth Waln, both eminent members of the Society of Friends, and was lineally descended from Nicholas Waln. He was born in the year 1776, at Walnford, his father's country-seat, in Monmouth County, New Jersey, whither the family had temporarily repaired during the disturbed state of society consequent upon the Revolutionary troubles.

He received the best education Philadelphia could afford; and, at an early age, entered "the counting-house," as it was then styled, of Jesse and Robert Waln, his kinsmen, and well-known merchants.

The solid proportions of his moral and intellectual character soon attracted notice, and they never changed.

An inquiring disposition, which never relaxed its search until every subject that engaged its attention had been mastered; a mind so evenly balanced as to be capable of perceiving the minute, but sound distinctions, between cases apparently similar, on which its conclusions were judgment; or of detecting the nice resemblance between ideas seemingly dissimilar, in which aspect it

revealed itself in humor and wit; a sagacity so unalloyed that no sophistry could turn its rays awry; and an hereditary stubbornness of integrity which would hold no terms with persons and things of which he disapproved, constituted the ruling features of his character.

Having tried himself as supercargo in a few India voyages, he entered upon business for himself; and, in a few years, placed himself among the foremost and most successful of merchants.

In the year 1804, he was married, in the old Meeting-house in Pine Street, to Sallie Morris, daughter of Benjamin W. Morris, and granddaughter of the Samuel Morris, of whom a Memoir appears in this work. Miss Morris was celebrated for her beauty and accomplishments, among the many Quaker beauties of Philadelphia, then the metropolis of elegance, refinement, and hospitality.

Although engaged in a prosperous and widely-extended mercantile business, his intelligence and tastes were not confined to his ledger and his desk. For the science of the law he early evinced an almost passionate fondness. His mind revelled, in pure joy, in the pages of Parke and Marshall, the reporters of that day of the marvellous decisions and opinions of Mansfield and Buller. Abbott, and other writers on Commercial Law and Marine Insurance, held a prominent place in his library. Never idle, but always with a book in his hand upon some useful subject, he studied, in succession, commerce, finance, the laws of trade, the adaptation of science, as explained by Davy and Liebig, to agriculture; and having mastered them as far as the "ars longa" would permit to an amateur, his sound sense enabled him to apply his knowledge to the daily complications of life.

The faith of his fellow-citizens in his judgment and integrity, balked the courts of litigation; and his services, as referee, were for many years in constant requisition, and they were always cheerfully rendered. The responsible and lucrative posts of president of banks, insurance companies, and other public trusts, were repeatedly pressed upon him, but as constantly declined. An indifference to worldly honors, an innate aversion to display, a modesty which made him distrust his ability to discharge the duties of the exalted station, made him resolutely decline, on more



than one occasion, to allow his name to be used as a candidate to Congress from the city. He reminded his importunate friends, that "Sparta hath many a worthier son than me."

Having served in the municipal Councils, he reluctantly yielded, at a time when he thought the emergency of public welfare made it his duty, to go to Harrisburg.

It was when the statesmanship of De Witt Clinton, and the apathy of Pennsylvania rulers, were forcing New York ahead in the competition for the commercial supremacy of the Union.

Any notice of his career as a legislator must here be brief. One of the ablest of our Pennsylvania and Federal statesmen, and the *facile princeps* of the Bar, who served with him in the Legislature, has pronounced of him, "A man of the soundest judgment and most enlarged public views, and on all questions of commerce and finance we all looked up to him."

Two measures with which he was identified will be noticed, as furnishing examples of sound practical statesmanship and enlightened public policy.

He urged upon the Legislature the entire abolition of the onerous and absurd port-charges, which then, as now, cripple the commerce of Philadelphia, and react injuriously on the prosperity of the State. He demonstrated the impolicy of the half-pilotage tax, the Harbor-master's fees, the Health and Lazaretto impositions, and all the petty exactions, which, being collected directly from the ship-master, without his receiving any equivalent, have long rendered our port deservedly unpopular. Being penalties by statute, they are enforced by arrest; and being collected from strangers and wayfarers, who find difficulty in obtaining bail, the arrest extorts the money without the possibility of trial; and the victims, indignant at the extortion, decline ever after receiving freights to Philadelphia. He advocated that these imposts, if the Executive patronage required their continuance, be made salaried offices, and payable out of the State Treasury. The increase of the trade of the port, consequent upon their abolition, would more than repay the outlay. But the majority of the members were "inland bred," and by the deluded public were suspected of "knowing some nurture," and the bill was negatived.

New York, whose legislators are vigilant in appropriating any

measure tending to promote her commercial prosperity, has since adopted the reforms he advocated. The half-pilotage monopoly she has abolished, and thrown the calling open to competition, and, as experience has proved, with most salutary effect. The Quarantine and Health department she has made salaried offices, appointed by the Executive and paid by the State.

He was also the author of the Act of 7th April, 1826, relating to collateral inheritances. Although it subjected him to much angry vituperation from childless bachelors and wealthy old ladies, it is now one of the most popular statutes on the subject of taxation. The crippled finances of the State retarded the completion of her great internal improvements, and she needed resuscitation. Time has vindicated the wisdom of the political principles on which it is based, and successive Legislatures have raised it from two and a half, originally fixed, to five per cent. The heir pays it cheerfully, because it is deducted before he welcomes the legacy. A collector is dispensed with, because it is paid by the executor. The percentage accrues only when death relaxes the grasp of the owner; while the exempt contribute more than an equivalent in rearing virtuous families to the State.

Several of our sister States have incorporated it into their codes. It may seem presumptuous to suppose that imperial England could be indebted to repudiating Pennsylvania for any idea on finance or revenue. But her probate and legacy duties, and the act of Parliament of 1853, taxing estates "going," as they call it, "in succession," are based on similar principles precisely, and yielded, in 1858, to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, upwards of a million sterling of revenue.

It is due to the "inland bred" majority of the legislators to record that they appreciated the class of productions that the bill was calculated to engender, as it passed both Houses.

After serving in the Legislature, he soon after retired from business to the private life so dear to him. He had long fixed, at its proper worth, the standard of worldly honors; and now found his happiness in the bosom of his family, in the society of a few congenial friends, in the indulgence of his literary tastes, and in company with his friend and neighbor, Judge Peters, of Belmont, on

the Schuylkill, in amateur experimenting in agricultural science, in landscape gardening, and horticulture.

His charity was a feeling as well as a principle. The most deserving of the public charitable and benevolent institutions received annually his anonymous contributions. More than one decayed family, whose parent he had known personally, or by reputation, in their better days, habitually received, from their unknown benefactor, at the approach of winter, the welcome donation to secure their comfort.

In 1847, while famine was raging in and depopulating Ireland, the Mayor of one of the provincial towns acknowledged, in the public prints of that country, "the anonymous, but munificent donation" of a sum of money from "a citizen of the United States," of which no one but his family until now have ever known him to be the giver.

He died, at his residence in Philadelphia, on 4th April, 1850, after a very short illness.

This sketch, a feeble tribute to his memory, is reluctantly given, on the importunate solicitations of many of his friends and contemporaries, who admired his character and loved the man.

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## ROBERT WALN, JR.

ROBERT WALN, JR., the son of Robert Waln, was born in Philadelphia, in 1797. He received a liberal education, but never engaged in professional pursuits. He published, in 1819, "The Hermit in America on a Visit to Philadelphia," one of several imitations of an English work then popular, "The Hermit in London." It contains a series of sketches on the fashionable pursuits and topics of city life, pleasantly written, but without any features of mark. In the following year he made a similar essay in verse by the publication of "American Bards, a Satire." In this poem, of nearly one thousand lines, he reviews the leading aspirants of the day, praising Clifton and Dwight, and condemning Barlow and Humphreys. Lucius M. Sargent and Knight receive severe treat-

ment, and the Backwoodsman is dealt with in like manner. In the course of the piece a number of minor writers of the ever-renewed race of poetasters are mentioned, most of whom have long since been forgotten. He published a second volume of verse in the same year, entitled, "Sisyphi Opus; or, Touches at the Times, with other Poems;" and, in 1821, "The Hermit in Philadelphia," a continuation of his previous work, but mostly occupied with a caveat against the introduction of foreign vices into the United States. He makes up a formidable list of wives sold at Smithfield, betting noblemen, and bruised prize-fighters, as an offset to the stories by English travellers of society in our frontier settlements.

We next hear of our author as the supercargo of a vessel, in which capacity he made a voyage to China, turning his observations to account on his return by writing a history of that country, which was published in quarto numbers. He also undertook the editorship of "The Lives of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence" after the publication of the third volume, and wrote several of the biographies which appeared in the subsequent portion of the series. In 1814, he published "A Life of Lafayette." In addition to these works, he was the author of numerous contributions to the periodicals of the day. He also wrote "An Account of the Quaker Hospital at Frankford."

He died in 1824, at the age of thirty-one.

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## ROBERT WALSH.

ROBERT WALSH, formerly of Philadelphia, died at his residence in Paris, on the 7th of February, 1858. As a former ornament of the journalist's profession in Philadelphia, Mr. Walsh was very highly esteemed here. He was born in Baltimore, in 1784, making his age at his death seventy-five. His father was Irish, and his mother a Pennsylvanian, who belonged to the Society of Friends. He was educated at the Roman Catholic colleges in Baltimore and Georgetown, was then sent abroad, and returning at the age of twenty-five, studied law, married, and settled here to practise his



profession. This he was obliged to abandon in consequence of deafness, and he became a writer for the press, his earliest contributions appearing in "The Portfolio." In 1811, he undertook the first quarterly review in America, "The American Review of History and Politics," of which eight numbers were published, the contents being nearly all from his own pen. He also contributed to other literary publications, and wrote several political works. One of the ablest of these was issued in 1819, and was called "An Appeal from the Judgment of Great Britain respecting the United States of America." It was an unanswerable vindication of his country from the calumnies of British writers. For this work he received a vote of thanks from the Pennsylvania Legislature, and a number of copies were ordered for their use. In the year 1819, Mr. William Fry, of this city, started "The National Gazette," and employed Mr. Walsh as its editor. It was first a tri-weekly, and afterwards a daily afternoon paper. A leading object of Mr. Fry in starting it was the advocacy of the Missouri Compromise. It was greatly superior to any other journal of that time, was high-toned and dignified, and especially noticeable for its literary character.

The "National Gazette" declined, and in 1836 Mr. Walsh retired from it. He removed to Paris, where for a number of years he held the office of United States Consul. On being superseded, he remained in Paris, and has ever since been the correspondent of "The National Intelligencer" and "The Journal of Commerce." He was a pure and able man, somewhat bigoted on political as well as religious questions, but honest, faithful, and loyal to every cause that he espoused. His literary style was clear, strong, and masculine, free from ornament and surplus words, and, therefore, the more relied upon and the more admired by judicious people.

Mr. Walsh was a man of delicate frame and figure, with a fine intellectual face; and in conversation, in which he excelled, his manner was delightful. He married first the daughter of General Moylan, an eminent lawyer of this city, and had by her a large family of children. His second wife was Mrs. Stocker, of this city, whom he also survived.



## BENJAMIN WEST.

BENJAMIN WEST was the youngest of a family of ten children, of John West, who married Sarah Pearson. He was born on the 10th October, 1738, in Springfield Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. His ancestors were Quakers, and emigrated to this country with William Penn at the time of his second visit. Many of the family are still residing in Delaware County. Benjamin was reared in the faith and profession of his ancestors,—a profession from which he never severed when his genius commanded the flattery of courts, and honor from kings and princes. It is recorded of him by Galt, that at the age of seven, he made a drawing, in red and black ink, of an infant niece, of whose cradle he had the charge, and whose sweet smile in her sleep excited his imitative powers, though he had never seen a picture or engraving. With this precocious sign of inherent talent the boy's mother was charmed, and her admiration and encouragement confirmed his taste. At school, even before he had learned to write, pen and ink became his cherished favorites; and birds, flowers, and animals adorned his juvenile portfolio. His father, it is said, being admonished by some of the elders of the Society of Friends, did all he could to repress his son's ardent propensity, and sought to direct his attention to more useful pursuits. But it was in vain. It is a tradition of the family that the father, having sent Benjamin out to plough, missed him from his work, and found him under a pokeberry bush, where he had sketched the portraits of a whole family so strikingly that they were instantly recognized.

At length an epoch occurred in his professional progress. A party of Indians taught him to prepare red and yellow colors, such as they used in decorating their persons; from his mother he obtained some indigo, which completed all the elementary colors of his pallet, while the tail of the family cat furnished him with hair for his pencils. At the age of sixteen, he obtained the consent of his parents to pursue painting, as a profession, in Philadelphia. Several of his landscapes, executed on panels, over mantel-pieces,

are preserved at the Hospital in Philadelphia, where his great picture of Christ Healing the Sick is still exhibited. The sign of the Bull's Head tavern, which long hung in Strawberry Alley, was one of these early productions. It was, a few years since, purchased and carried to England. Its colors were remarkably fresh and well preserved, and life-like.

After practising his art successfully in this country until 1759, he embarked for Italy, where he spent about four years in the study of the works of the great masters. On seeing the celebrated statue of the Apollo Belvidere at Rome, he is said to have exclaimed, "How like an Indian warrior!" One day, at Rome, while his master had stepped out a moment, West slyly painted a fly on the work on which his master was engaged. The master came in, resumed his work, and made several attempts to scare away the fly. At last he exclaimed, "Ah! it is that American."

Mr. West reached London in 1763, where he settled, and ultimately attained the summit of his fame. He was married in 1765, to a lady of Philadelphia, Miss Shewell, who, having been previously engaged to him, went out to meet him in London. Among the earliest of his productions in London was the subject of Agrippina landing at Brundisium with the ashes of Germanicus. This painting originated from a conversation which took place at the table of Drummond, Archbishop of York, where our artist was a guest. It stamped the fame of Mr. West with King George III, who became not only his munificent patron, but the tried and intimate friend.

When, after the Battle of Brandywine, several ministers of the Court sought to misrepresent West to the King as a Whig, or what was worse, a rebel, the King led him into conversation, at a levee, concerning the recent news of the battle. West openly but firmly set forth the wrongs his native country had suffered, and defended their cause as far as his Quaker principles would allow. The King, in presence of his ministers, complimented him on his love of his native land, and told him he had raised himself in his esteem by the manly course he had taken.

Our limits will not admit of following Mr. West through his famous professional career. Honors and distinctions were heaped upon him, not only in England, but by eminent foreign bodies and

princes. The honor of knighthood offered him by King George, through the Duke of Gloucester, was respectfully declined. The Quaker continued true to his principles.

Mr. West died as calmly, as placidly, as he had lived, on the 10th March, 1820, at the good old age of eighty-one. His remains repose in St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

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### SAMUEL WETHERILL.

As a preacher, Samuel Wetherill was remarkable. The eminent people of his day attended his meeting to hear his discourses. Mrs. Madison, the wife of President Madison, was frequently there, and often, during her lifetime, referred to the sermons she had heard of Mr. Wetherill with much interest. The last sermon he delivered at the meeting-house was not long before his death. So feeble had he then become that he was carried in a chair from his carriage to the gallery.

The body of Free Quakers was not numerous, but highly respectable. Among the most prominent of the founders and active members was Samuel Wetherill, the grandfather of Samuel P. Wetherill and John Price Wetherill. Among them he was a preacher of rare powers, and an author of religious, sectarian, and polemic works. He wrote "An Apology for the Religious Society called Free Quakers;" a tract on the Divinity of the Saviour, and other like tracts, of interest at the time and curious now. As a preacher, he travelled in other States, with the certificate of his Society, addressed to "brethren in affliction and of one family." He was descended from English stock, who came to New Jersey in 1682, and settled there, a Quaker community, near Burlington. Christopher Wetherill, his ancestor, gave to Friends the land on which their meeting-house at Burlington was built. The minutes of that meeting contain a history of his family. Samuel left Burlington at an early age, and came to Philadelphia. He was born in April, 1736, and died September 24th, 1816, aged eighty years. His life was one devoted to intellectual pursuits, both as a preacher

and author. He took great interest in the new Society, in the faith of which he died. He was instrumental in raising a large sum of money for building the Free Quaker Meeting-House, southwest corner of Fifth and Arch Streets. Among those whose names were obtained to the subscription list are seen Benjamin Franklin, Robert Morris, John Cadwalader, and others of like renown. The property thus obtained, as well as the burying-ground, in Fifth Street, below Prune Street, is now held by the Society. The latter was granted to the Free Quakers, in trust, for a burying-ground, 26th August, 1786.

In his business pursuits, Samuel Wetherill was active and industrious. He was the first manufacturer of jeans, fustians, coatings, &c., in these parts; he was also engaged in dyeing and fulling, and in the chemical business. During the Revolutionary War, he manufactured, and sold largely of his manufactures to the American Army. His business card was quaint: it represented an old Quaker lady, sitting by the side of a spinning-wheel (this was the mark of all his goods), and the following announcement:—

“Philadelphia manufactures, suitable for every season of the year, viz., Jeans, Fustians, Everlastings, Coatings, &c., to be sold by the subscriber, at his dwelling-house and manufactory, which is now standing in South Alley, between Market Street and Arch Street, and between Fifth and Sixth Streets, on Hudson’s Alley.

“SAMUEL WETHERILL.”

Towards the end of his life, Samuel Wetherill abandoned all his former business, except the manufacture of drugs and chemicals; and about 1789 removed to the location No. 65 North Front Street, so well known as Wetherill’s Drug Store, &c.

The public services of Mr. Wetherill were few, but important. He acted as Vice-President of the “Committee of 1793,” and was a member of City Councils, and Chairman of the Watering Committee, 1802–3.

In this branch of business the Wetherills are the oldest manufacturers in this country. During the war of 1812, they determined to undersell the foreign articles, which were imported to the ruin of their business; in this they succeeded, till, as was then believed, some in the foreign interest did not wish to see the Weth-



erills' lead and chemical works in such full operation. During the year 1813, their establishment, lately situated in Twelfth, near Race Street, was burnt down.

He was in the City Councils in 1816; Secretary to the Society of Constitutional Republicans in 1805; a Director in the Schuylkill Navigation Company in 1815. A man of public spirit and stern republicanism. He died respected, beloved, and lamented.

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### JOHN PRICE WETHERILL.

JOHN PRICE WETHERILL was born in Philadelphia, on the 17th October, 1794, of most esteemed and respectable parentage. His early life was guarded by the hopes and anxieties of a singularly devoted mother. His father was an active, upright, worthy, and enterprising man. The family of Mr. Wetherill were well known as among the founders of the Society of Free Quakers.

John Price Wetherill followed in the path which his fathers trod. In early life he became engaged in the lead and chemical business with other members of the family; a firm yet existing, after some changes, the oldest, and as highly respectable as any in the land. As he grew in years, his mind, naturally strong and inquiring, and active, became engaged in scientific pursuits: in these he delighted. He devoted himself to business, and rose to a commanding position in his occupation, as a scientific manufacturer. To science he gave aid and attention. Whatever he had to do he did faithfully. Thus, at early manhood, he held a first place in the community.

In the year 1817 he became a member of the Academy of Natural Sciences; and, during his life, he devoted much time to the objects of this society. He was Vice-President for many years. In 1827, he became a member of the American Philosophical Society. The requirements necessary for an active participation of these distinguished bodies, composed of learned and celebrated men, were of no common kind. It was necessary to be more than an amateur; knowledge, of large and varied character, was essen-



tial to those who were proposed for membership. Mr. Wetherill had gained his diplomas by self-tuition, and he stood on the level of the most gifted.

In 1832, he was elected a member of the Geological Society. In this branch of science he was an adept. He, soon after its formation, joined the Franklin Institute, where his experience was of value to the objects of that association.

In 1837, the Boston Society of Natural History honored him with membership. His scientific character and usefulness became no longer local; and, in 1844, he was elected a member of the Mineralogical Society of St. Petersburg. In 1848, he was elected to membership in the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The State of New Jersey, the home of his ancestors, in the year 1851, elected him a member of the State Society of Natural History.

Thus, as a man of scientific attainments, Mr. Wetherill was highly respected at home and in other learned communities. He was modest and unassuming in this, as in every act of his life, in all departments of his active duties.

As a religionist, he adhered to the Free Quakers, the Society his grandfather so signally served. To the meeting-house of that decreasing sect he went for worship when not in attendance with his family at other places, or other engagements permitted.

In the year 1829, October 13th, Mr. Wetherill was elected a member of the local legislature of this city. Like his father and grandfather, he was placed in the responsible and arduous post of a member of the City Councils, a public responsibility, which should ever be regarded as one of a representative character, that of the interests of citizen tax-payers for the greatest public benefits, and not a delegate of organized patronage. He held by his first election a seat in the Common Council, where he served till October 9th, 1832. At the election then held he was placed in the Select branch. In these branches of Select and Common Council, Mr. Wetherill was a member until his death, in July, 1853, a period of twenty-three years, ten months, and eleven days.

Mr. Wetherill was a Whig; but not a Whig who believed his party and its policy were to be strengthened by political intolerance.

He had no partisan blindness, which prevented his perception of equal rights, merits, or principles, in another political party.

His fatal disease was contracted while offering his personal attentions to one who, though elected President of the United States, was not the favorite of the party to which Mr. Wetherill belonged.

John Price Wetherill was a true man, a warm and sincere friend. He understood, respected, and served the people. He was liberal, charitable, kind. In all his domestic relations he was most affectionate. The remarkable and spontaneous demonstration at his obsequies by his fellow-citizens proved that his character was appreciated, his worth acknowledged, and his death deplored.

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## ROBERT WHARTON.

ROBERT WHARTON was born in the District of Southwark, the 12th January, 1757. He was not fond of close study; its charms to him were everything but agreeable; and he loved to indulge more in field sports than to pore over either Cicero or Horace.

At the age of fourteen he was bound, by his own will, to a hatter; but he soon tired of this; his indentures were cancelled, and he immediately afterwards entered into the counting-house of his elder brother Charles, an eminent merchant of his day. While in this situation he spent much of his time in sporting, and became the President of the famous Fox-Hunting Club of Gloucester.

The most important post of Mr. Wharton's life is connected with his official position as an Alderman. About 1796 he was appointed, by the Governor, one of the Aldermen for this city, under the Mayoralty of Hilary Baker, Esq. At this time occurred a riot among the sailors, who demanded more wages than the merchants thought were reasonable. This riot produced much excitement; and, it being a very important part of our history, we give a full account of it.

This riot took place in 1796, and it became of a most serious nature to the commercial interests and business of Philadelphia, the

first city of the Union for commerce, as well as in other respects. The sailors at first organized into a body of two hundred and fifty or three hundred, and demanded exorbitant wages; and, on the refusal of the merchants to comply with their demands, proceeded to take, either by persuasion or force, every sailor found on board of any vessel, increasing their numbers to seven hundred or more. The departure of vessels from port was stopped. For several days the rioters had entire control of the whole Delaware front of the city: they had selected officers from amongst themselves, and, armed with clubs and knives, marched and counter-marched along the wharves and Water Street, with drums beating and colors flying.

Mr. Baker, the Mayor, being rather feeble in health at that time, the citizens applied to Alderman Wharton to put an end to so grievous a state of things, and the Mayor conferred on him all his authority for that purpose. He marched from the Mayor's Office with a police force of about fifty or sixty men, and halting at the old Coffee-house or Exchange, then in Second Street above Walnut, he addressed the merchants assembled there at the moment, reminded them that it was especially their own cause, and invited them as good citizens to aid him. About twenty joined his police force, and amongst them was Joseph Sims, John Clement Stocker, and John Wharton, a nephew of Mr. Wharton. He proceeded with them to Dock Street wharf, where they met a formidable body of sailors, coming from Water Street, and marching in regular military order, with music and colors, and armed as mentioned. He ordered them to halt. They objected. He then read the Riot Act, and required them to disperse. They answered him with shouts of refusal and defiance, and prepared for fight. A pile of cordwood was at hand. He ordered each of his men, not otherwise provided, to arm himself with a stick, and then commanded the attack, calling out, "Let each man take his man." Relying on the advantage of his great activity and strength in coming to close quarters, he went into the battle unarmed, and making his way, regardless of blows on all sides, reached their principal color-bearer, a powerful, fine-looking fellow, of at least six feet in height, from whom he attempted to wrest the standard, knowing that if he succeeded, it would tend much to discourage the rioters, and save much fighting and perhaps loss of life. The battle was very earnest

in all parts. Mr. Wharton's men, notwithstanding the odds of five to one against them, encouraged by his example, fought fearlessly, and the sailors, confident in their numbers, did likewise. It was the game of knock down and knock down, and up and at it again. But the struggle around Mr. Wharton was furious. Soldiers and sailors, and, in truth, all men, are inclined to fight to the last for their colors, and so it certainly was with these Jack Tars. Four times Mr. Wharton either knocked down or threw down the sturdy standard-bearer, and once or twice, belabored with blows on the head and shoulders by the sailors who fought for their colors, fell with him. But he finally captured the flag and its bearer, and victory declared for the supporters of the law. Over one hundred sailors were captured and imprisoned, the rest scattered and fled.

Mr. Wharton belonged to the Federal school of politics. He was first elected Mayor of the city in 1798. In this memorable year occurred the yellow fever, which produced such devastating effects in this city, and in which Mr. Wharton took much interest, and did much good by his daily attentions. In this year occurred in the Walnut Street Prison a great riot, produced through discontent and the fever raging therein. On this occasion, Mr. Wharton displayed his accustomed energy of character, and by a small force quelled the riot, after several men had been shot. He also took an active part in suppressing the riots of St. Mary's Catholic Church. He was fifteen times elected Mayor of Philadelphia, his last election being in the autumn of 1824.

In 1798, he became a member of the First City Troop. In 1803, was elected Captain, and so continued until 1810, when he was elected Colonel of the Regiment of Cavalry, and shortly after, by a vote of the officers of the brigade, a majority of whom were Democrats, and opposed to him in politics, he was elected Brigadier-General of the First Brigade of Pennsylvania Militia. The law, from political motives, was then changed, giving the appointment to the Governor, who appointed Mr. George Bartram, a prominent member of the Democratic party. When the war of 1812 broke out, Mr. Wharton, at the age of fifty-six or fifty-seven years, joined as a private the old First Troop, then commanded by his former Lieutenant, Captain Charles Ross; went to camp with them at Mount Bull, where the troop was long stationed, performed in his



turn the usual vidette riding service, and all the other duties of a soldier, until October, 1814, when he was summoned by the City Councils to preside over the city as its chief magistrate.

Mr. Wharton's wife was Sarah Chancellor, sister of the late William Chancellor, by whom he had only one son, Robert Owen Wharton, who, always in delicate health, died a short time before his father. Robert Wharton died in 1834, in the seventy-eighth year of his age, retaining to the last the esteem of the citizens of Philadelphia. He was the uncle of Robert W. Sykes.

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## THOMAS I. WHARTON.

THOMAS I. WHARTON was born in Philadelphia, in April, 1791, and died, in the same city, in March, 1856. He was, at the time of his death, a leading member of the Philadelphia Bar, having made real estate his specialty, and having acquired an experience in that branch of jurisprudence which enabled his naturally keen and discriminating mind to act with equal promptness and accuracy on the delicate and difficult questions of title, of which, towards the end of his life, he was almost the sole professional arbiter. Few of his cotemporaries equalled him in general scholarship; still fewer in that literary taste and skill, which placed him, as a writer, in a position which it is only to be regretted that his great fastidiousness of temper, and his heavy pressure of other labor, prevented him from improving. Of severe integrity, and of almost excessive delicacy, in questions of social and political propriety, his walk was limited to his family and business relations, beyond which, with but few exceptions, his associations were only formal. These exceptions were the main literary foundations of Philadelphia, in several of which, viz., the Philosophical and Historical Societies, the Library and Athenæum Companies, he was among the most active members.



## SAMUEL WHEELER.

SAMUEL WHEELER was the most eminent iron-smith of his time in the United States, and probably equal to any in the world. He was born in Weccacoe, Philadelphia County, in 1742.

A contemporary said, that as a boy he knew him, admired him, went to his place often, and that he was always in advance of other men in his business. He made a cannon out of bars of iron by welding. It was used at the Battle of Brandywine, and was the wonder and admiration of the American officers. It was lighter than brass ordnance, and more accurate and distant in effect. It was without hoops, — a continued surface. Bonaparte took the idea from this, and had cannon for his flying artillery made after it. It was captured at the Battle of Brandywine, was deposited in the Tower of London among the spoils of war, and valued as a trophy. The idea was original with Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. Wheeler used to say that he had often heard of General Washington, before anything was said of him as to military character, when surveying had been well done, "that it was as well done as if Washington had done it; that Washington himself could not have done it better."

Mr. Wheeler made a chain, to be put across the North River, to stop the British ships. General Washington had thought that the river could not be defended except by two armies, one on each side. He happened to say, in the hearing of General Mifflin, "I wish I could have a chain made; but that is impossible." Said General Mifflin, "I know a man that can make such a chain." "Who is he?" "Mr. Samuel Wheeler, a friend and a townsman of mine." "I should like to see that man." Mifflin said, "He is here now, in the army." Mr. Wheeler was forthcoming. General Washington said, "I wish a chain made, to put across the North River, to stop the British ships. Can you make it?" "I can." "Then I wish you to make it." "I cannot do it here." "Then," said General Washington, "I will cheerfully give you dismissal from the army. Badly as we want men, we cannot afford to keep such

a man as you." Mr. Wheeler made the chain. It was hauled in links across New Jersey. It was hung, and did good service. It was ultimately cut, by building a fire about a link, and with a chisel and sledge hammer. In the "Official Letters of General Washington," second Boston edition, 1796, vol. i, p. 282, there is stated the opinion of General Washington, "that the navigation of the North River by the English could not be stopped, except by two distinct armies; the whole, however, to be raised on a general plan, and not to be confined to any particular place, by the terms of enlistment."

Mr. Wheeler made many improvements in mechanics. He made scale-beams that would weigh a ton, and be set to dangling by a twelve-and-a-half-cent piece. He made improvements in hay-scales, in hoisting machines, in the cutting of screws, and generally in everything connected with his business. He liked his trade, and was a good thinker. He said, at the age of seventy, that although he had served seven years' apprenticeship to his trade as faithfully as any one, yet he did not know it. The truth was, that new ideas were occurring to him. He made lanterns for lighthouses, and attended the building of the lighthouse at Cape Henlopen. Lighthouses used to fall, from bad foundations. He adopted a successful mode of laying the stone; a mode he subsequently suggested as to laying the stone at Castle Williams, New York, and was adopted. He was a mine of wealth to his country, by his genius and skill.

He died in Philadelphia, May 10th, 1820, aged nearly seventy-eight years.

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## CHARLES WHEELER.

CHARLES WHEELER died, in his seventy-first year, at his residence, in Philadelphia, June 16th, 1858.

The decease of one who had long held a high position in the profession of law and in the church, seems to call for more than ordinary notice. Mr. Wheeler was of Swedish descent. His an-

cestors settled on the Delaware, and his family retained their rights as parishioners, under the charter of the church of "Gloria Dei," to the time of the last of the native Swedish pastors, the Rev. Dr. Collin. He was born in Montgomery County. His mother was a member of the Society of Friends; his father a member of the Episcopal Church, in which he trained his sons. They were parishioners of Christ Church, Philadelphia, under the pastoral care of Bishop White. In this parish, the son of whom we now write continued as communicant and vestryman, and member of the Council of Advice, until the decease of the Bishop, for whose character and ministry he always entertained a peculiar veneration. He graduated at Yale College in 1808, during the Presidency of Dr. Dwight. After taking his degrees, he entered the office of the late Charles Chauncey, Esq., for the study of law, and was admitted to the Philadelphia Bar in 1811. In his professional career he secured for himself the highest regard and confidence of his associates. His learning in the law was remarkable for extent and accuracy. In laborious and diligent study, continued to the end of life, he had few equals. During his connection with Christ Church, he extended his influence to other portions of the city, particularly to St. John's Church, Northern Liberties, of which he was one of the first movers, and one of the most efficient supporters and vestrymen. For many years he was a member of the original Board of Managers of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and also of the Society for the Advancement of Christianity in Pennsylvania, and, for twenty years, a member of the Standing Committee of the Diocese.

## WILLIAM WHITE.

WILLIAM WHITE was born in Philadelphia, April 4th, 1748 (March 24th, 1747, old style). He was prepared for college at the Latin school, by the celebrated teachers, Paul Jackson and John Beveridge, the Latin poet, whom he calls "a thorough grammarian, with little else to recommend him."

He completed his collegiate course in his seventeenth year, and soon entered upon a preparation for the career of his choice. He was much impressed, at this period of his life, by the preaching of Whitefield.

In 1770, William White visited England to obtain ordination. He was a neighbor, during a portion of his residence in London, of Goldsmith, and describes an interview with him:—

"We lodged, for some time, near to one another, in Brick Court, of the Temple. I had it intimated to him, by an acquaintance of both, that I wished for the pleasure of making him a visit. It ensued; and, in our conversation, it took a turn which excited in me a painful sensation, from the circumstance that a man of such genius should write for bread. His 'Deserted Village' came under notice; and some remarks were made by us on the principle of it,—the decay of the peasantry. He said that, were he to write a pamphlet on the subject, he could prove the point incontrovertibly. On his being asked why he did not set his mind to this, his answer was: 'It is not worth my while. A good poem will bring me one hundred guineas; but the pamphlet would bring me nothing.' This was a short time before my leaving England, and I saw the Doctor no more."

He also visited Johnson, and he says,—

"Having mentioned some literary characters, who became personally known to me in the University, I will not omit, although extraneous to it, that giant of genius and literature, Dr. Samuel Johnson. My introduction to him was a letter from the Rev.

Jonathan Odell, formerly missionary at Burlington. The Doctor was very civil to me. I visited him occasionally; and I know some who would be tempted to envy me the felicity of having found him one morning in the act of preparing his Dictionary for a new edition. His harshness of manners never displayed itself to me, except in one instance, when he told me that, had he been Prime Minister during the then recent controversy concerning the Stamp Act, he would have sent a ship of war and levelled one of our principal cities with the ground. On the other hand, I have heard from him sentiments expressive of a feeling heart, and convincing me that he would not have done as he said.

Having been ordained Deacon and Priest, he returned to his native city, in September, 1772, and was chosen an Assistant Minister of Christ and St. Peter's Churches. In 1773, he married Miss Mary Harrison.

From the outset of the Revolution he sided with his countrymen, but took no active part in the struggle. In his own words, "I never beat the ecclesiastical drum. Being invited to preach before a battalion, I declined; and mentioned to the Colonel (who was one of the warmest spirits of the day, Timothy Matlack), my objections to the making of the ministry instrumental to the war." He continued to pray for the King until the signing of the Declaration of Independence, when he took the oath of allegiance to the United States. During its administration, an acquaintance made a significant gesture of the neck. The clergyman remarked, "I perceived, by your gesture, that you thought I was exposing my neck to great danger by the step which I have taken. But I have not taken it without full deliberation. I know my danger, and that it is the greater on account of my being a clergyman of the Church of England: but I trust in Providence. The cause is a just one, and, I am persuaded, will be protected."

In September, 1777, he was chosen one of the chaplains of Congress. "The circumstances," says his biographer, "attending his acceptance of this appointment were sometimes detailed by him, in conversation with his friends, in a lively manner. Bishop Kemper, of Missouri and Indiana, who was present on some such occasions, mentions to me that he related them thus: 'That he had removed with his family to Maryland; and being on a journey, stopped at



a small village between Harford County and Philadelphia, at which he was met by a courier from Yorktown, informing him of his being appointed by Congress their Chaplain, and requesting his immediate attendance: that he thought of it for a short time: it was in one of the gloomiest periods of the American affairs, when General Burgoyne was marching, without having yet received a serious check, so far as was then known, through the northern part of New York: and after his short consideration, instead of proceeding on his journey, he turned his horses' heads, travelled immediately to Yorktown, and entered upon the duties of his appointment.'"

After the evacuation of Philadelphia by the British, Mr. White was the only clergyman of his communion who remained in the State. As soon as peace was concluded, he took an active part in the reorganization of the Episcopal Church, and at the first regular Convention of the State was elected Bishop. He soon after sailed to England, in company with the Rev. Dr. Provost, who had been elected Bishop in New York, to apply for consecration. An Act of Parliament having been passed to remove the obstacles which had prevented action in the case of Bishop Seabury, both were consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury, in the chapel of Lambeth Palace, February 4th, 1787. They soon after returned, landing at New York on Easter Sunday. Bishop White returned to Philadelphia, where he resided the remainder of his long life, except when not absent on his official duties. He published, in 1813, "Lectures on the Catechism of the Protestant Episcopal Church; with supplementary lectures: one on the Ministry, the other on the Public Service: and Dissertations on Select Subjects in the Lectures;" in 1817, "Comparative Views of the Controversy between the Calvinists and the Arminians, two volumes, 8vo.;" in 1820, "Memoirs of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America," reprinted in 1835, with a continuation to that period. A number of Sermons, Episcopal Charges, and Pastoral Letters, delivered in the course of his ministry, were published separately. The Memoirs consist of a brief narrative of the early Conventions and subsequent history of the Episcopal Church after the Revolution. The characteristic modesty of their author led him to touch very briefly upon his own services, and the historical value of the work is consequently less than it otherwise would have been.

The modesty of Bishop White, with no lack of patriotic or Christian firmness,—for he maintained on proper occasions the distinctive principles of his communion, and he remained at his post as a city clergyman during the terrible visitations of the yellow fever,—was as remarkable as his worth. The memory of his virtues, and the recollection of his appearance, are cherished by his friends, and well deserve to be.

For the last forty years of his life, Dr. White was Senior, and consequently Presiding Bishop of the United States. His course on theological questions was regulated by the quiet and modest character of his mind. He died, after a short illness, during the time of morning service, on Sunday, July 17th, 1836.

He consecrated Bishops Smith, Bass, Jarvis, Moore, Parker, Hobart, Griswold, Dehon, R. C. Moore, Kemp, and others.

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## JOSIAH WHITE.

JOSIAH WHITE was born at Mount Holly, New Jersey, in the 3d month, 1781; and died, 11th mo. 14th, 1850, at Philadelphia. He came to Philadelphia, still a minor (having lost his father while young), and became a hardware merchant. He sold out and retired, at the age of twenty-seven, having realized a sufficiency, and purchased a country-place, and located at the Falls of Schuylkill ("The Public Ledger" of yesterday, *i. e.* October 13th, 1859, states that this "village contains about three thousand inhabitants, and some six hundred houses, including Wood's Point, and the Print-works on the opposite side of the Schuylkill. Here is the great granite quarry, which has been worked as long as the village has been known. The first public note of it was whilst owned by Josiah White.")

Here he built the first lock on the Schuylkill, and also a mill for making wire; it was burnt down, and immediately rebuilt by him, in partnership with Joseph Gillingham. From the Embargo, in 1807, to peace in 1815, the business prospered. That event introduced

competition from abroad, and destroyed it. To realize value for his investment, he pressed on Councils his long-cherished scheme of using the water-power of the Schuylkill to supply the city with that article, instead of the very expensive method employed by the agency of steam. His efforts were long and persevering, and eventually successful. The Fairmount Dam was built, and damages awarded the partners for the loss of their water-power of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

An iron boat and wire bridge at the Falls were among his toys, partly curious, and partly useful. He was interested in the Schuylkill Navigation Company, chartered 8th mo. 3d, 1815; but the policy pursued by its leading controllers disgusted him, and having threatened them with a rival on the Lehigh River, he withdrew from the concern.

Associating himself with Erskine Hazard, and also one George F. A. Hauto (a *soi-disant* capitalist, but who turned out a needy adventurer, and a dead weight on the other partners), they commenced operations on the Lehigh, then a mere mountain torrent. Having purchased sufficient land, whose mineral wealth they had partly ascertained, and procured an Act, 3d mo. 20th, 1818, authorizing them to improve the river navigation, and granting all necessary powers, they formed a descending watercourse for artificial freshets, principally by an invention of his (J. W.), called the Bear-trap Lock. The first coal was then brought down in "arks," or square scows, hinged together in a long series, and floated on a wave produced by discharging the pools *seriatim* as they went down through these locks.

After various arrangements were made, the success of the enterprise attracted capitalists, and resulted in the Act incorporating, 2d mo. 13th, 1822, "The Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company," the conversion of the Lehigh River into a slack-water navigation, with magnificent locks, of thirty to fifty feet lift, and the construction of the finest canal in the State. The Company prospered till the crisis of 1837, which, with the antagonism of the Reading Railroad on the Schuylkill River, reduced its value in the market, and, in 1841, an unparalleled freshet in the Lehigh, sweeping away dams and locks before it, brought the stock to a very low point. Josiah White, then advanced in years, in the dead of winter, immediately visited

the scene of disaster, and was, as usual, foremost, by personal and pecuniary sacrifices, in the work of its restoration to soundness. Having been so thoroughly identified with this great enterprise, he felt keenly the reflections made on his sagacity, which were somewhat liberally indulged in. In a letter to one of his family, at this period, complaining of these attacks, he says, "I have done nothing I am ashamed of, and nothing that I feel a conviction of wrong in; and I am heartily thankful that I have a larger amount in our stock than any other man; as it shows, that if others confided in my representations, I was candid in them, and that I never pressed the enterprise that I was not willing to take the lead in every way."

The latter period of his life was passed in the active duties of benevolence and philanthropy. The disease which terminated it was contracted on a tour to the West, for the establishment of two manual labor schools, which he founded and endowed by his will. Under this, two bodies of land, in the States of Iowa and Indiana, comprising several thousand acres, have been purchased, and corporations created, to educate, in perpetuity, "poor children, white, colored, and Indian."

He filled various offices, the most prominent having been Canal Commissioner of the State.

In person, he was short and somewhat stout; his habits were exemplary, frugal, temperate, and always strictly subordinate to business. Indomitable perseverance formed the grand characteristic and secret of his success. That his views were far-reaching and sound, is abundantly illustrated by that success, to which we are greatly indebted for the internal improvements of the State, the development of its mineral resources, and especially the liberal enjoyment of the best of fuel and the purest of water.

Charles V. Hagner, speaking of Josiah White, says, "White & Hazard were using, in their rolling-mill, bituminous coal; they knew of the large body of anthracite at the head of the Schuylkill, and early commenced making experiments with it. They had some brought down in wagons, at an expense of one dollar per bushel, twenty-eight dollars per ton, expended a considerable sum of money in experimenting, but could not succeed in making it burn. The hands working in the mill got heartily sick and tired of it, and it was about being abandoned; but on a certain occasion, after they



had been trying for a long time to make it burn, without success, they became exasperated, threw a large quantity of the 'black stones,' as they called them, into the furnace, shut the doors, and left the mill. It so happened that one of them had left his jacket in the mill, and in going there for it, some time afterwards, he discovered a tremendous fire in the furnace, the doors red with heat. He immediately called all hands, and they run through the rolls three separate heats of iron with that one fire.

"Upon making this discovery, Mr. White immediately began to make experiments in contriving various kinds of grates to make the anthracite applicable for domestic use, in which he finally succeeded to admiration.

"Mr. White started and originated the Schuylkill Navigation Company, which was chartered March 8th, 1815, and this was another of his beneficial acts. As an evidence of the utilitarian character of Mr. White in everything he undertook, at the time he was starting the Navigation Company, he drew with chalk, on one of the large beams or girders of his mill, a plan of his proposed works along the Schuylkill, and under it wrote, 'Ten dollars in every man's pocket;' meaning, I suppose, that that sum would be saved to every one in cost of fuel when we could get coal down the river. At that time wood was the universal fuel, and was annually getting higher in price. I have always considered Josiah White the originator of the Fairmount Dam and Water-works. There had been used previously two antiquated steam-engines for raising the water, using wood for fuel. I know of no man to whom the citizens of Philadelphia are so much indebted as they are to Josiah White; originating the idea of Fairmount Water-works, and, finally, originating the Lehigh Works; and the day will come, when all now living shall have passed off the stage of existence, when the future historian, who shall look into the facts that I have imperfectly detailed, and comparing them with the results in his own age, will place the name of Josiah White where it justly belongs, alongside of the other benefactors of his race."



## GENERAL JONATHAN WILLIAMS.

JONATHAN WILLIAMS, an American citizen and soldier, born in Boston, in 1752, for many years was at the head of the engineer corps of the army. He died in 1815, at the age of sixty-three years, in Philadelphia, where he had resided many years. Among the civil offices which he held was that of member of Congress. His publications comprised,—in 1799, “A Memoir of the Thermometer in Navigation;” in 1801, “Elements of Fortification;” and, in 1808, “Kosciusko’s Manceuvres for Horse-Artillery.”

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## THOMAS WILLING.

BY THOMAS BALCH.

ONE whose integrity, patriotism, and public services have justly commanded the praise and esteem of his countrymen.

Mr. Willing, as appears from a tribute to his memory, understood to be from the pen of Mr. Binney (“Republican Court,” 16), was a man who, in all the relations of private life, and in various stations of high public trust, deserved and acquired the devoted affection of his family and friends, and the universal respect of his fellow-citizens.

From 1754 to 1807, he successively held the offices of Secretary to the Congress of Delegates at Albany, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, her representative in the General Assembly, President of the Provincial Congress, Delegate to the Congress of the Confederation, President of the first chartered Bank in America, and President of the first Bank of the United States. With these public duties he united the business of an active, enterprising, and successful merchant, in which pursuit, for sixty years, his life was rich in examples of the influence of probity, fidelity, and perseve-

rance upon the stability of commercial establishments, and upon that which was his distinguished reward upon earth,—public consideration and esteem.

To such a comprehensive summary of his public and patriotic services, little, except in illustration or proof, can be added, except, perhaps, to mention that Mr. Willing, who had read law in the Temple, although he pursued the profession of a merchant, was a Justice of the Supreme Court, and had occupied a place on that bench for many years before the Revolution, having received his commission in September, 1761. As a judge, he was pure and intelligent; added to which, he possessed an amenity of manner which rendered him popular with the Bar, and attractive in society.

As Mr. Willing's remaining in the city gave offence to some of the furious Whigs, as one of the political parties is called in a newspaper of the day, the following extracts are, perhaps, proper to be inserted:—

“Mr. Willing and his partner, Mr. Morris, had been, from the beginning of the war, the agents of Congress for supplying their naval and military stores. Their disaffection to their sovereign and their rebellious principles were proved by a number of letters intercepted by your noble brother, and therefore Mr. Galloway called on Mr. Willing in Philadelphia, by your express order, to take the oath of allegiance; and, although he refused, yet he found so much favor in your sight as to obtain a countermand of that order, and a dispensation from taking the oath.”\*

“At a critical period of the Revolutionary War, when there was great danger of the dissolution of the American Army, for want of provisions to keep it together, a number of patriotic gentlemen in Philadelphia, subscribed to the amount of about two hundred and sixty thousand pounds, payable in gold and silver, for procuring them. The provisions were procured. The two highest subscriptions were those of Robert Morris, for £10,000, and Blair McClenahan, £10,000. Thomas Willing subscribed £5000.”†

“Mr. Willing and his associate in commerce, Robert Morris, as well as his connection, Mr. Clymer, were all members of Congress

\* A Reply to the Observations of Lieutenant-General Sir William Howe. By Joseph Galloway, Esq. Philadelphia. Reprinted by Enoch Story, 1787, pp. 954–956.

† Littell's Saturday Magazine (1821), vol. i, p. 455.

of 1776. To the great credit and well-known patriotism of the house of Willing & Morris, the country owed its extrication from those trying pecuniary embarrassments so familiar to the readers of our Revolutionary history. The character of Mr. Willing was in many respects not unlike that of Washington, and in the discretion of his conduct, the fidelity of his professions, and the great influence both public and private which belonged to him, the destined leader (Washington) was certain to find the elements of an affinity by which they would be united in the closest manner.\*

He died January 19th, 1821, aged seventy-nine years and thirty days.

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## RICHARD WILLING.

RICHARD WILLING, Esq., was one of the oldest representatives of one of the oldest and most distinguished Philadelphia families. He expired at 2 o'clock, 18th June, 1858, at his residence in Third Street, corner of York Court. Mr. Willing was a son of Thomas Willing, former President of the old United States Bank. He was born at the old family mansion, Peale Hall, on the 25th of December, 1775, so that he was in the eighty-third year of his age.

Mr. Willing, having inherited great wealth, never engaged actively in business, though in his younger days he made several voyages to India and to Europe, as supercargo of vessels belonging to the firm of Willing & Francis. In 1814, he was elected Captain of the State Fencibles, who were ordered to Camp Dupont, in anticipation of a British invasion. But he declined the office, and indeed throughout his whole life he avoided public situations of all kinds. He was married in 1804 to Eliza, daughter of Thomas Lloyd Moore. Four daughters and one son survive him. One of the daughters is married to John Ridgeway, Esq., and resides in Paris. He was connected also with other distinguished families in this country and in Europe. A niece of his was the wife of Lord Ashburton.

\* Republican Court, p. 255.

He was always regarded as an intelligent, upright, and honorable man, and a worthy representative of the class of courtly gentlemen of the past generation.

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## JAMES WILLS, JR.

THE elder James Wills, who owned and occupied his property, as well as Nos. 82 and 86 Chestnut Street, was coachman for Anthony Benezet. Having scraped together ten dollars, he commenced the grocery business in Chestnut Street, near Front, and was one of the early pioneers in business in the *western part* of Chestnut Street, having moved up to near Third Street, at a period when but little traffic, comparatively, was done above Second Street.

When the elder Wills died he left his fortune, with the exception of some trifling legacies, to his son James. The latter was a bachelor, and died January 22d, 1825. By his will one thousand dollars were bequeathed to each of his tenants, and other legacies were left, among which were the following:—

Friends' Asylum for Insane Persons, \$5000; Four Monthly Meetings of Friends' Society, \$2500; Philadelphia Society for Support of Charity Schools, \$1000; Magdalen Society, \$5000; to the Orphan Society, the house in which he resided, No. 84 Chestnut Street; to the City Dispensary and Dispensaries of Southwark and Northern Liberties, the two dwelling-houses, 82 and 86 Chestnut Street.

His principal bequest was embraced in the following item, which we copy from the will:—

“All the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, real, personal, and mixed, both that which I now hold, and all that I may hereafter acquire, I give and bequeath to the Mayor and Corporation of the City of Philadelphia for the time being, and to their successors in office forever, in trust for the purchase of a sufficient plot of ground in the city of Philadelphia, or in the neighborhood thereof, and thereon to erect or cause to be erected suitable buildings and accommodations for an hospital or an asylum, to be denominated ‘The Wills Hospital for the Relief of the Indigent Blind

and Lane.' The funds thus appropriated are to be put out on good mortgage security, or city stock, and after expending the necessary sum for the lot and improvements heretofore mentioned, the income of the remainder is to be exclusively applied to the comfort and accommodation of as many of the indigent blind and lame as the income will admit of, after defraying the necessary expenses incident to such an establishment. And to the aforesaid Mayor and Corporation of the said City and their successors in office is intrusted the duty of appointing Trustees and Managers, and all other matters and things in any wise appertaining to the due fulfilment of the aforesaid bequest, the right of regulating the establishment, and insuring the right application of the funds to the purposes heretofore stated, and for the sole use and benefit of the indigent blind and lame, giving a preference to those persons resident in Philadelphia and its neighborhood."

The heirs-at-law, disappointed in not getting the coveted fortune of the deceased Mr. Wills, disputed the validity of his will, but in 1831 the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania put an extinguisher upon their amiable desires by deciding that the will was a good and a legal one, and that it should stand. The "residue" of the estate amounted to over \$122,000 at the time the Hospital was ready to go into operation. The building was erected on a lot on Race Street opposite Logan Square, and extending from Eighteenth to Nineteenth Streets, and from Race to Cherry Streets. It was purchased for \$20,000, and the corner-stone was laid on the 2d of April, 1832. The following year it was ready to go into operation, and it has since accomplished much good to the class of unfortunates who were the objects of the charity of the benevolent testator.

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## JAMES WILSON.

PERHAPS few of those now living can recollect James Wilson in the splendor of his talents and the fulness of his practice. Classically educated, and in the outset employed as a tutor in a public seminary, his subsequent success, in a narrow circle of country



courts, encouraged him to embark in the storm which, after the departure of the British troops, agitated the forum of Philadelphia.

The adherents of the royal cause were the necessary subjects of prosecution, and popular prejudice seemed to bar the avenues of justice.

But Wilson never shrunk from such contests; and, if his efforts frequently failed, it was not from want of pains or fear of danger.

Other questions of the highest moment also became the daily subject of forensic discussion; questions for which previous study, no doubt, had qualified him; but with which no previous practice had familiarized him.

In respect to them, Mr. Wilson soon became conspicuous. The views which he took were luminous and comprehensive. His knowledge and information always appeared adequate to the highest subject, and justly administered to the particular aspect in which it was presented. His person and manner were dignified; his voice powerful, though not melodious; his cadences judiciously, though somewhat artificially, regulated.

His discourse was generally of a reasonable length. He did not affect conciseness nor minuteness; he struck at the great features of the case, and neither wearied his hearers by a verbose prolongation, nor disappointed them by an abrupt conclusion.

But his manner was rather imposing than persuasive. His habitual effort seemed to be to subdue without conciliating, and the impression left was more like that of submission to a stern than a humane conqueror.

In 1783, Mr. Wilson resided in Chestnut Street, between Fourth and Fifth Streets.

He afterwards was appointed a Judge of one of our courts of justice.

Fort Wilson was the name popularly given to a large brick house, formerly on the southwest corner of Walnut and Third Streets. It was, in the year 1779, the residence of Mr. Wilson, who became offensive to many for his professional services in behalf of Roberts and Carlisle, men arraigned and executed as Tories and traitors. He gave also umbrage from his support of those merchants who refused to regulate their prices by the town resolves. A mob was formed, who gave out an intention to assault his house

and injure his person. His friends gathered around him with arms; soon the conflict was joined; many muskets were fired; some were wounded, and a few died. It was a day of great excitement, and long the name and incidents of "Fort Wilson" were discussed and remembered.

Among those in the house were Messrs. Wilson, Morris, Burd, George and Daniel Clymer, John T. Mifflin, Allen McLane, Sharp Delany, George Campbell, Paul Beck, Thomas Lawrence, Andrew Robinson, John Potts, Samuel C. Morris, Captain Campbell, and Generals Mifflin, Nichols, and Thompson. They were provided with arms, but their stock of ammunition was very small. While the mob was marching down, General Nichols and Daniel Clymer proceeded hastily to the Arsenal at Carpenters' Hall, and filled their pockets with cartridges: this constituted their whole supply.

In the meantime, the mob and militia (for no regular troops took part in the riot) assembled on the commons, while a meeting of the principal citizens took place at the Coffee-house. A deputation was sent to endeavor to prevail on them to disperse, but without effect. The First Troop of City Cavalry assembled at their stables, a fixed place of rendezvous, and agreed to have their horses saddled and ready to mount at a moment's warning. Notice was to be given to as many members as could be found, and a part was to assemble in Dock below Second Street, and join the party at the stables. For a time a deceitful calm prevailed. At the dinner hour the members of the Troop retired to their homes, and the rebels seized the opportunity to march into the city. The armed men amounted to two hundred, headed by low characters. They marched down Chestnut to Second Street, down Second to Walnut Street, and up Walnut Street to Mr. Wilson's house, with drum beating and two pieces of cannon. They immediately commenced firing on the house, which was warmly returned by the garrison. Finding they could make no impression, the mob proceeded to force the door. At the moment it was yielding, the Horse made their appearance.

After the Troop had retired at dinner-time, a few of the members, hearing that the mob were marching into town, hastened to the rendezvous. These members were Majors Lennox and the two Nichols, Samuel Morris, Alexander Nesbitt, Isaac Coxe, and Thomas

reiper. On their route to Wilson's, they were joined by two roopers from Bristol, and, turning suddenly round the corner of Chestnut Street, they charged the mob, who, ignorant of their number, at the cry of "The Horse, the Horse!" dispersed in every direction; but not before two other detachments of the First Troop had reached the scene. Many of them were arrested and committed to prison; and, as the sword was very freely used, a considerable number were severely wounded. A man and a boy were killed in the streets; in the house, Captain Campbell was killed, and Mr. Mifflin and Mr. Samuel C. Morris wounded. The Troop patrolled the streets the greater part of the night. The citizens turned out, and placed a guard at the Powder Magazine and the Arsenal.

It was some days before order was restored. Major Lennox was particularly marked out for destruction. He retired to his house in Germantown; the mob followed, and surrounded it during the night, and prepared to force an entrance. Anxious to gain time, he pledged his honor that he would open the door as soon as daylight appeared. In the meantime, he contrived to despatch an intrepid woman, who lived in his family, to the city for assistance, and a party of the First Troop arrived in season to protect their comrade; but he was compelled to return to town for safety. He was, for a number of years, saluted in the market by the title of "Brother Butcher," owing, in part, to his having been without a coat on the day of the riot; for, having on a long coat, he was obliged to cast it aside, to prevent being dragged from his horse. Major Lennox was afterwards, upon the death of Thomas Willing, elected President of the first Bank of the United States.

The gentlemen who had comprised the garrison were advised to leave the city, where their lives were endangered. General Mifflin and about thirty others accordingly met at Mr. Gray's house, below Gray's Ferry, where it was resolved to return to town without any appearance of intimidation. But it was deemed expedient that Mr. Wilson should absent himself for a time. The others continued to walk, as usual, in public, and attended the funeral of the unfortunate Captain Campbell.

Allen McLane and Colonel Grayson got into the house after the

fray began. The mob called themselves Constitutionalists. Benet's fire in the entry from the cellar passage was very effective.

Thus ended one of the most famous riots ever known in the annals of Philadelphia.

Mr. Wilson will ever be immortalized as one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He died on the 28th of August, 1798, aged fifty-six years.

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## ALEXANDER WILSON.

ALEXANDER WILSON was a Scotchman by birth. The first years of his residence in this country were devoted to school-keeping in Pennsylvania. An early acquaintance with the venerable Bartram kindled within him a love of science; and after he commenced his ornithological inquiries, he pursued them, for the remaining short period of his life, with an enthusiasm, perseverance, and self-devotion which have rarely been equalled. He died, in Philadelphia, August 23d, 1813, at the age of forty-seven years. His "American Ornithology," executed under every possible disadvantage, and with encouragement so slender as hardly to keep him from the heavy pressure of want, is a monument to his name that will never decay. The old world and the new will regard it with equal admiration. "We may add, without hesitation," says Mr. Bonaparte, "that such a work as he has published, in a new country, is still a desideratum in Europe." To accomplish such a work, with all the facilities which the arts and knowledge of Europe afford, would confer no common distinction. But when it is considered that Wilson taught himself, almost unassisted, the arts of drawing and engraving; that he made his way in the science with very little aid from books or teachers; that he entered a path in which he could find no companions; none to stimulate his ardor by a similarity of pursuit or communion of feeling; none to remove his doubts, guide his inquiries, or to be deeply interested in his success: when these things are considered, the labors of Wilson must claim a praise, which is due to a few only of the solitary efforts of talent and enterprise.



In the strictest sense of the term, Wilson was a man of genius; his perceptions were quick, his impressions vivid; a bright glow of feeling breaks through his compositions. In the professed walks of poetry, his attempts were not often fortunate; but his prose writings partake of the genuine poetic spirit. A lively fancy, exuberance of thought, and a minute observation of the natural world, are strongly indicated in whatever flowed from his pen. He travelled for the double purpose of procuring subscriptions to his book, and searching the forests for birds; and some of his graphic descriptions of the scenery of nature, and the habits of the winged tribes, are inimitable. Sometimes he walked; at others descended rivers in a canoe; again, he was on horseback, in a stage-coach or a farmer's wagon, as the great ends of his wanderings could be most easily attained. The cold repulses of the many from whom he solicited subscriptions, he bore with equanimity; undaunted by disappointment, unsubdued by toil and privation. The acquisition of a new bird, or of new facts illustrating the habitudes of those already known, was a fountain of joy in his gloomiest moments; it poured the waters of oblivion over the past, and gave him new energy in his onward course.

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### JAMES P. WILSON, D.D.

JAMES P. WILSON, D.D., an eminent Presbyterian clergyman of Philadelphia, was for many years pastor of the first church in that city. Previous to his entering the ministry, he practised law, which doubtless gave him some advantage in attaining the great distinction to which he arrived in his subsequent profession. He was regarded not only as one of the first men of the metropolis, but also as one of the first of his profession in America. He published "Lectures on the Parables, and on the Historical Books of the New Testament." He died in the year 1830.



**REV. BIRD WILSON, D.D., LL.D.**

THE Rev. Bird Wilson, D.D., LL.D., and Emeritus Professor of Systematic Divinity in the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church, died at his residence in New York City, on the 14th April, 1859, in the eighty-third year of his age. Dr. Wilson was a member of one of the first families in Pennsylvania, and in early life embraced the profession of the law, practising in Norristown, Pennsylvania, and afterwards in Philadelphia. The "New York Courier" says: "He also was elevated to a seat on the Bench, which he occupied for a time with great credit to himself, and for which his legal abilities and acquirements, and great purity of character, peculiarly fitted him. Abandoning the profession of the law for that of divinity, he took orders in the Protestant Episcopal Church, and was afterwards appointed Professor in the General Theological Seminary in New York City, and at the time of his death had held the position for twenty-nine years. A jurist of profound learning and spotless integrity, a clergyman in whom shone noiselessly, but with beautiful distinctness, all the graces of the Christian faith, a teacher of divinity with a capability to impart to the student in the happiest manner the rich stores of his ecclesiastical lore, and a man of extraordinary regularity of habit, simplicity of life, and guilelessness of heart, Dr. Wilson lived a long life of usefulness, commanding the love and respect of all, and passes to his grave commanding the universal tribute of grief."

The father of the deceased was buried at the spot where the remains of Dr. Wilson rest.





## RICHARD WISTAR.

RICHARD WISTAR had the good fortune to descend from ancestors in whom he beheld examples worthy of imitation. His paternal grandfather, Caspar Wistar, emigrated from the dominions of the Electorate of Heidelberg, in Germany, from a place called Hilspach, where he was born February 3d, 1696, and arrived in Philadelphia on the 16th September, 1717. He was a man of strong intellect, and applied his life to useful purposes. By his exertions was established in New Jersey, about thirty miles from Philadelphia, a manufactory of glass, supposed to have been the first in North America. His maternal grandfather, Bartholomew Wyatt, emigrated from England with his wife, not long after William Penn commenced the settlement of Pennsylvania. He lived not far from Salem in New Jersey, and was active and distinguished in the affairs of his day, both civil and religious. His father was remarked for firmness of character, and paid particular attention to the morals and religion of his children.

Richard Wistar, the subject of this memoir, was born in Philadelphia the 20th July, 1756. On the 14th March, 1782, he was united in marriage to Sarah Morris, daughter of Captain Samuel Morris, a distinguished citizen of Philadelphia. Mr. Wistar, in early life, had a turn of mind in favor of trade and commerce, in which he met with great success. In the year 1790, he built the large four-storied store, at the northwest corner of Third and Market Streets, which he occupied for many years in conducting the wholesale and retail ironmongery and hardware business. He was not long in business before he was enabled to purchase lands and houses in and near to the city, and in the interior of the State of Pennsylvania. He was fond of reading and domestic retirement, and was one of the early friends and supporters of the Philadelphia Library Company and the Pennsylvania Hospital, and was an active Inspector of the Prison. He was one of the Benjamin Franklin order of men, who punctually and practically adopted his proverbs and maxims on entering into life and business pursuits.

Watson, in his "Annals," says, "Mrs. Shoemaker, as aged as ninety-five years, told me that pleasure-carriages were very rare in her youth. She remembered that her grandfather had one, and that he used to say he was almost ashamed to appear in it, although it was only a one-horse chair, lest he should be thought effeminate and proud. She remembered old Richard Wistar had one also." This Richard Wistar was the father of our present subject.

During the American Revolution, Richard Wistar belonged to the Society of Friends, but was disowned on account of his patriotism, and love of the lady he married, and the exercise of his just rights, in taking up arms in defence of his property at sea, when attacked, and of marrying out of Quaker meeting.

Mr. Wistar often remarked in after years, that when he built his store at the northwest corner of Third and Market Streets, he could see the mechanics and workmen engaged on it from his country-seat, so few were the buildings then erected between the two places. His country-seat, called Hilspach, was situated at what is at present called and known as Fifteenth, Spring Garden, Brandywine, Green, Mount Vernon, Wallace, and Broad Streets, and is now converted into valuable city building lots of ground.

Richard Wistar was a man of sound common sense and strict integrity, of good judgment and business habits. He was sternly opposed to the system prevailing in his days of mutual indorsements and accommodation paper promissory notes of hand.

Richard Wistar was a Freemason in high esteem with the fraternity. His certificate of membership is dated 27th August, 1779, and signed, "John Wood, Grand Secretary, Lodge No. 2." The impression is taken from an engraving, with Masonic devices, and is in the English, French, and Spanish languages. The "Silk Stocking" lodge of Philadelphia was created for him, and he became its Master, or presiding officer. He always carried his certificate, which was printed on parchment and tied up in a silken bag, with him, when he travelled by sea or land.

He died in the city of Philadelphia, on the 6th of June, 1821, in the sixty-fifth year of his age, and at this period (1859) only two of his children survive him, Richard Wistar and Sarah Wistar.







## CASPAR WISTAR, M.D.

BY THE HON. WILLIAM TILGHMAN.

It has been thought wise by most nations, and particularly by the ancient republics, to pronounce eulogies on the meritorious dead. If wise in them, it is no less so in us. Indeed, we have more need of this custom than they; because, from the nature of our government, we have fewer artificial excitements to noble actions. We admit of no permanent honors, either personal or hereditary. But the ancient republics had both. We are not without danger of becoming too exclusively the votaries of wealth, often acquired by sordid and ignoble conduct. It behooves us, therefore, to counteract this overwhelming influence, by refusing it any weight in the estimation of character. This can be in no way better done than by fixing a standard in which wealth shall be no ingredient. And in the formation of this standard, posthumous eulogium will be a powerful engine. Wealth will no longer be thought praiseworthy, when it has ceased to be an object of praise. I am aware of the opinion of a celebrated Roman historian, that this kind of eulogy, although productive of much good, had an evil tendency in corrupting the truth of history. But this will depend on the use which is made of it. If employed for the purpose of lavishing indiscriminate or unjust encomium, it will be an evil; if judiciously used, a good.

Caspar Wistar, the brother of Richard Wistar, was born in Philadelphia, the 13th of September, 1761. As his parents and ancestors, on both sides, were of the religious Society of Friends, he was brought up in their principles, and received his classical education at a school established by them in Philadelphia. I have been able to discover nothing very uncommon in his juvenile character. In quickness of apprehension he was surpassed by several of his companions; but what he undertook he never failed to accomplish by perseverance. That he was a good scholar, may be inferred from the knowledge of the Greek and Latin languages which he was after-

wards known to possess. Until the age of sixteen, his faculties were expanding; but the peculiar cast of his genius had not been developed. About that period occurred an event which called forth the ruling passion, and decided his fate. This event was the Battle of Germantown, in the year 1777. His religious principles kept him out of battle; but his humanity led him to seek the wounded soldier, and he was active in assisting those who were administering relief. His benevolent heart was affected by their sufferings; and so deeply was he struck with the happy effects of the medical art, that he determined to devote his life to a profession formed to alleviate the miseries of mankind. Conquerors and heroes,—ye who delight in the shout of battle, and exult in the crimson field of victory, contemplate the feelings of this young man, and blush at the contrast! But let us adore the mercy of God, whose mysterious Providence produces good from evil. From the decay of matter springs up the green herb and the purple flower. From the disasters of Germantown arises a youth, destined to bind up the wounds of many, and to send forth from his instructive school, thousands of hands to open the fountains of health throughout the land.

Firm in his purpose, Wistar applied himself to the study of medicine, under Dr. John Redman, a very respectable physician of Philadelphia, formerly President of the College of Physicians, with whom he remained upwards of three years. During the last year, he attended also the practice of Dr. John Jones, an eminent surgeon, who had left New York in consequence of its occupation by the British Army. It was the fortune of Wistar to gain the esteem of all his preceptors; an infallible mark of his own good conduct. The friendship of two such men as Redman and Jones was a valuable acquisition; and from that of Jones in particular, very important consequences resulted. Having gone through the usual course of study, and attended the medical lectures, Wistar offered himself, in the year 1782, as a candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Medicine, in the University of Pennsylvania. Previous to the obtaining of this honor, he underwent an examination in the presence of the Trustees of the University. It is said that he acquitted himself, on that occasion, in an extraordinary manner; answering the questions proposed to him with such uncommon promptness and precision, as excited the surprise

and commanded the admiration of all who heard him. There was a singularity in this examination, of which I have been informed by a gentleman who was present. The Faculty of Medicine were not all of one theory, and each professor examined with an eye to his own system. Of this Wistar was aware, and had the address to answer each to his complete satisfaction, in his own way. Of course the degree was conferred on him.

Instead of entering immediately into the practice of medicine, he determined to avail himself of the advantages to be found in the schools of London and Edinburgh, at that time the first in the world. In this he displayed his usual judgment. It has been remarked that, with few exceptions, those who have been great in the learned professions, have abstained from practice at an early age. The cause is obvious. The elements of science lie too deep to be attained without long and patient thought. The mind requires retirement and tranquillity, to exert its powers of reflection to their full extent. But these are incompatible with the bustle, the anxiety, the agitation of active life. There was another reason, too, formerly of great weight, though not so now, for finishing a medical education in Europe. Our own schools were in their infancy, and he who had been initiated in others of so much greater celebrity, carried with him a splendor, reflected from the masters under whom he had studied. This had appeared in Morgan, Shippen, Kuhn, and Rush, too plainly to be overlooked by the searching eyes of Wistar. Accordingly, he went to England, in October, 1783.

The air of London was unfavorable to his health, which compelled him to make frequent excursions into the country. But no time was lost by these excursions. His investigating mind was busily employed in acquiring knowledge of various kinds; and his familiar letters, during his abode in England, to his friends in America, gave promise of that devoted attachment to science for which his character was afterwards distinguished.

Having remained a year in England, he repaired to Edinburgh, where he passed his time, not like many young men, in frivolous or vicious amusements; but in study, in attending lectures, in cultivating the friendship of distinguished persons. To act a part like this requires no small share of good sense and resolution. But to



understand the merit of Wistar, it should be known that, in consequence of his father's death, he was easy in his fortune, and uncontrolled master of his actions. Great is the danger to which youth is exposed in populous cities. To each is offered the choice of Hercules. The paths of pleasure and of virtue lie open before them. False steps are not easily retraced ; for the diverging paths grow wider and wider asunder, until they terminate in the opposite extremes of infamy and honor.

Always intent on improving his opportunities, he made a journey on foot, in October, 1785, in company with Charles Throgmorton, Esq., and Mr. Elcock, of Dublin, through part of the Highlands of Scotland, and visited Glasgow, Inverary, and Inverness. His character was now rising rapidly at Edinburgh. That he enjoyed the esteem of the great Cullen, appears by a letter dated January, 1786. For two successive years he was elected one of the Presidents of the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh. He was elected also President of the "Society for the Further Investigation of Natural History." These honors, conferred by a great, a learned, and a proud nation, on a youth, a stranger, one whose country had but just risen into existence, are the surest testimonies of uncommon merit. We contemplate them not only with pleasure, but with pride.

About the year 1785 he was received into the house of Dr. Charles Stewart, a most respectable physician of Edinburgh, with whom he lived during the remainder of the time that he spent in that city. Of this favor he was highly sensible. He always remembered it with gratitude, and spoke of it with pleasure.

In June, 1786, he took his degree of Doctor of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh. His inaugural dissertation, "*De Animo Demisso*," is dedicated to Dr. Franklin and Dr. Cullen: the one at the head of philosophy in his own country; the other flourishing in Scotland in medical fame. Towards the end of the year 1786 he took leave of Edinburgh, leaving behind him a name long remembered. This is testified by his countrymen who visited that city many years after. His fame flew before him to his native city, where he arrived in January, 1787, after an absence of more than three years.

He was now about to enter upon a new and more important

scene. Hitherto he had spent his time in preparation. A considerable portion of life had passed away. It was time to be useful. This was the object of his labors, the wish of his heart. He had formed to himself a sublime idea of his profession. Medicine he considered an art by which an individual may be a benefactor to the universe, and confer blessings on unborn generations. To this elevation of mind he owed his eminence; for who would submit to the toils and privations which lead to greatness without exalted ideas of the prize?

With talents matured, his mind enriched with the fruits of study and experience, he now engaged in the practice of medicine with every advantage. His friends were numerous, and his fellow-citizens in general disposed to confide in him. Nor was their confidence disappointed. His old friend and preceptor, Dr. Jones, took the most delicate means of affording him an opportunity of making himself known. This was all he wanted. His works spoke for themselves. His mind was eminently formed for a profession in which precipitancy is danger, and mistake is death. No man ever performed his duty to his patients with more scrupulous integrity. He spared no pains in collecting all the symptoms from which the disease might be ascertained. His visits were long; his questions numerous and minute. He paused before he decided, but was seldom wrong; and his mind once satisfied, he was not easily moved from his purpose. In consultation with his brethren he was courteous and attentive; never overbearing, but always stating, with modest firmness, the result of his own reflections. His patients he never failed to attach to him. How, indeed, could it be otherwise, when, to the sedulous attentions of a physician, was added the sympathy and anxiety of a friend. Though much given to hospitality, he never neglected the duties of his profession. Being eminent, both in medicine and surgery, his practice soon became so extensive that he was in the habit of walking ten miles daily. He would often rise from the convivial table to visit his patients, and request his friends to remain with his family until his return. Yet the pleasure of pleasing others seemed an antidote to fatigue, and enabled him generally to be the most animated of the company. To a man thus acting success is certain. Fortune, who intoxicates the weak, had no power over his steady mind. He knew that

nothing is stationary in life. No man continues great without continued labor. All nature is in motion ; and he who does not advance, will surely recede. By unremitted exertions, he always kept the ground he had gained, and still pressed forward to the pinnacle of his profession. His labors were sweetened with reward, and his spirit cheered with public favor.

In the year 1787 he was appointed Physician to the Philadelphia Dispensary, a useful and charitable institution, then recently established. In the same year he was elected a member of the College of Physicians, and of the American Philosophical Society. In 1788, to his other good fortune, was added domestic happiness, by his marriage with his first wife, Isabella Marshall, daughter of Christopher Marshall, of this city. In 1789, he was elected Professor of Chemistry in the "College of Philadelphia." This appointment he did not accept without great hesitation. Philadelphia had then the misfortune to be divided between two rival schools, the Faculty of Medicine of the College, and that of the University of Pennsylvania. He saw and lamented the consequences of this division. It was his wish to unite in one great institution the talents of the city. But, finding that the period of union had not yet arrived, he accepted the professorship offered him by the College, in order to preserve an influence, to be exerted at the proper season, and in this purpose he was not disappointed ; for he had the satisfaction of contributing largely to the much-desired union, which was afterwards effected. In 1790, he was struck with affliction, in the loss of a wife whom he tenderly loved.

In the memorable summer of 1793, when the physicians were the forlorn hope which stood between the pestilence and the people, he had nearly lost his life ; he did not escape the awful visitation, but was fortunate enough to recover from it. In the autumn of the same year, he was chosen physician to the Pennsylvania Hospital. In that celebrated institution, his services were principally in the department of surgery, where he found ample scope for the exercise of his humanity. I have been assured, from unquestionable authority, that, in attendance on the sick, he knew no difference between the rich and the poor. It requires no small knowledge of the human heart, no little experience in the business of the world, to appreciate this trait of character according to its real

value. It is easy to applaud the conduct of the *good Samaritan*,—we all do it,—and the priest and the Levite, had they heard the parable, would have done the same; but when brought to the test, they cast their eyes on the wounded traveller, and passed by.

The rival faculties of medicine being united in the University of Pennsylvania, Wistar was elected, in January, 1792, adjunct-professor of Anatomy, Midwifery, and Surgery, with the late Dr. William Shippen, one of the fathers of the medical school. Surgery and midwifery were afterwards erected into several professorships,—Shippen and Wistar retained anatomy, and, on the death of Shippen, in 1808, Wistar was placed, as sole professor, in the anatomical chair.

It was here that the scene of his greatest excellence was exhibited. In many departments of science he was conspicuous, but here pre-eminent. Here he exerted all his genius and strained every faculty of his mind. His heart and soul were in the object. No pains, no money were spared, to render the lecture complete; and he succeeded; for, in the opinion of able judges, he might well bear a comparison with the most celebrated professors in existence. In language, he was sufficiently fluent, and, when a little excited, even eloquent; and, by happy allusions to agreeable objects, he contrived to scatter flowers over a field not naturally of an inviting aspect. But his great aim was to render his demonstrations perfectly intelligible; and this he always accomplished, by dwelling upon his subject until he perceived that it was clearly understood by his pupils. In the communication of his ideas, he had a facility, never attained but by great masters. Too much praise cannot be given him, for the liberality with which he provided the necessary apparatus. His expenses in procuring every kind of drawing or model, which could represent the various parts of the human body, were greater than can be conceived by those who have not been informed. The increase of his class keeping pace with the fame of the professor, it was found impossible to demonstrate to several hundred students, at once, the structure of all the minute organs. He had recourse, therefore, to models, which gave an exact representation of the small parts of the human structure on a magnified scale. This was not an original idea of Wistar; but he extended this mode of instruction, so far beyond anything



which had been before practised, and its effects, under his lessons, were so luminous and happy, that we can scarce withhold from him the merit of invention.

He published, a few years ago, a system of anatomy adapted to the use of students, the character of which I shall give, in words better than my own, obligingly communicated by a professor of our medical faculty.\* “It is a model for an elementary work. The style is simple, plain, intelligible; the descriptions, brief and accurate; the arrangement, lucid; and the whole work altogether worthy of his talents. However numerous the writings of anatomists, I have no hesitation in declaring this by far the most easily understood, and by far the best fitted for the purposes intended.”

Anatomy has been so much studied, both by the ancients and moderns, and so many excellent works have been published on the subject, that any *discovery*, at this time of day, was scarcely to be expected; yet it is supposed to be without doubt, that Wistar was the first who observed and described the posterior portion of the ethmoid bone in its most perfect state, viz., with the triangular bones attached to it. Of this he has given an accurate description, in the “Transactions of the American Philosophical Society.” On the subject of that discovery, he received, a few days before his death, a letter from Professor Sæmmering, of the kingdom of Bavaria, one of the most celebrated anatomists of Europe, of which the following is an extract: “The neat specimen of the sphenoid and ethmoid bones are an invaluable addition to my anatomical collection, having never seen them myself in such a perfect state. I shall now be very attentive to examine these processes of the ethmoid bone in children of two years of age, being fully persuaded Mr. Bertin had never met with them, of such a considerable size, nor of such peculiar structure.”

By the class of medical students, Wistar was universally loved and respected. It has been said, that during the period of his lectures, they increased in number from one to five hundred. To ascribe this prodigious increase to him alone, would be doing injustice to the dead. Let me not adorn his recent grave with laurels torn from the tombs of others; but, without violating that modesty

\* Dr. Dorsey, Professor of Materia Medica.



which he loved, I may be permitted to say, that no individual contributed more than he to raise the school to its present eminence.

In December, 1798, Wistar married the amiable lady who now laments his loss, Elizabeth Mifflin, niece of the late Governor Mifflin.

In the year 1809, knowing the prejudices that obstructed the progress of vaccination, he suggested the plan of a society for circulating the benefit of that noble discovery, which has immortalized Jenner; and in this he had the pleasure of finding himself seconded by a number of public-spirited gentlemen, who associated themselves for that useful purpose. So great has been their success in this philanthropic enterprise, that by their means many thousands have been vaccinated in Philadelphia. Nor is this all; for, encouraged by their example, the corporation have generously provided by law for the gratuitous vaccination of the poor in the city.

In May, 1810, he resigned his office of physician to the Hospital. In what estimation he was held by the Managers, will best appear by their own resolution entered on their minutes: "The conclusion of Dr. Wistar to withdraw at the present time was unexpected and very much regretted by the Managers, who would have gladly embraced the opportunity of giving to a long-tried, experienced, and faithful practitioner, a further proof of their confidence in his skill and abilities, by re-electing him to the office he has filled more than sixteen years successively, with great reputation, if he had not prevented them, by declining to serve any longer. Under these impressions, the Managers reluctantly part with Dr. Wistar, being thankful for his past exertions to serve the institution, and for his kind offers to advise and assist, if there shall be any particular reason to require it, on any future occasion."

In July, 1794, he was appointed one of the censors of "The College of Physicians," a very learned incorporated society, which office he retained to the time of his death.

Having taken a view of his public and private services as a physician, let us now consider him as a man of general science and literature. His classical learning gained at school was much enlarged by subsequent reading. He became an excellent scholar. The Latin he understood so well, as occasionally to hold conversa-

tions in it. He acquired enough of the French language to converse without difficulty, and he was well acquainted with the German. In the character of an accomplished physician is combined a variety of sciences. Anatomy was Wistar's forte, but he was well versed in Chemistry, Botany, Mineralogy, and History in all its branches. As appurtenant to his profession, he had reflected deeply on the human mind. Its connection with the body, the manner of its being acted on by matter, and the cure of its maladies, he considered as desiderata in medicine. That these objects had engaged much of his thought is evident. For when a student at Edinburgh, I find that he proposed questions concerning them to Dr. Cullen; his thesis, "*De Animo Demisso*," shows the same train of thinking, and in his last valedictory address to his pupils, he exhorts them to investigate the subject, and to make themselves familiar with the writings of Locke, Hartley, Priestley, and Reid.

As an author, he has not left much behind him. He sometimes wrote anonymous essays, which were published in the papers of the day, and others, which had his signature, appeared in the "*Transactions of the College of Physicians*" and in the printed volumes of the American Philosophical Society. Among the latter is a paper in which are detailed some very curious experiments on the evaporation of ice. This subject has been since ably developed by others, but it is believed that Wistar was among the first who attracted to that object the attention of the public. His most considerable work is his *System of Anatomy*. Great literary works are not to be accomplished without more leisure than is allowed to men engaged in extensive professional business. Yet such persons may do much for the promotion of literature. And this was the case with Wistar. What he could himself do he did, and encouraged others to do more who had more opportunity. His ardent zeal for science made him anxious to promote it by all means and on all occasions. His house was open to men of learning, both citizens and strangers, and there is no doubt that at the weekly meetings, which took place under his hospitable roof, were originated many plans for the advancement of science, which were afterwards carried into happy effect. In consequence of ill health, he had been for some years gradually retiring from the practice of medicine, and had his life been spared a little longer, he would probably have confined himself to his lec-

tures, and indulged those studies which he loved, and for which he would then have found leisure. He was industriously inquiring into the natural history of our western country, and had commenced a collection of subjects for the investigation of Comparative Anatomy, to which he was incited by his friend, Correa da Serra, whose name is identified with science both in Europe and America. He had been accustomed to correspond with men of distinguished talents both at home and abroad. Among these are found the names of Humboldt and Scemmering, in Germany; Camper, in Holland; Michaud, in France; Sylvester, in Geneva; Dr. Pole and Dr. Thomas C. Hope, in Great Britain; and in the United States, of the late President Jefferson, Correa da Serra, Warren, and most others conspicuous in literature. In 1815, he was elected an honorary member of the Literary and Philosophical Society of New York, and the same honor was conferred upon him by other literary institutions.

In the year 1795, he was elected Vice-President of the American Philosophical Society, and in 1815, on the resignation of Mr. Jefferson, he succeeded to the chair of his illustrious friend. To the business of the Society he was always attentive, and his zeal for its interest could not be surpassed. Considering his conduct in every point of view, I may truly say that he gave universal satisfaction.

The understanding of Wistar was rather strong than brilliant. Truth was its object. His mind was patient of labor, curious in research, clear although not rapid in perception, and sure in judgment. What is gained with toil is not easily lost. His information was remarkably accurate, and his tenacious memory held fast what it had once embraced. Of time, and nothing else, he was avaricious. As he rode in a carriage, he often read, and when confined by sickness, he was fond of being read to by his family. But on such occasions, he chose his book, which was always on some useful subject. On its being once proposed to him to hear a celebrated novel which had just come out, he rejected it, declaring, as he had often done before, that to listen to works of mere fiction, was little better than loss of time. He had ranged over most of the objects of nature, in all her varieties; but next to his profession, the subjects in which he seemed to delight were the history and productions of America. To have been born an American, he esteemed

a blessing, and to possess a knowledge of all her resources and advantages seemed to him a duty which he owed to himself and his country.

It remains to consider Dr. Wistar as a private citizen and a man. Public office he neither held nor sought, although enjoying the affection of him whose favor was fortune. This disinterested friendship does honor to both. To the liberty of his country he was firmly and warmly attached. Concerning the defence of liberty against foreign aggression, there can be no difference of opinion. But when the question is how best to preserve it by our own institutions, we are agitated by frightful discord. In such circumstances, it is not only the right, but the duty, of every man to speak his sentiments with candor and firmness; never forgetting that to err is human, and that he himself or his friend who opposes him may be mistaken without blame. Such was the conduct of Wistar, who preserved his principles without sacrificing his friendships. His opinions on all subjects carried deserved weight. I owe it to candor, therefore, to say, that I have always understood he agreed in sentiment with those who have held the Government since the Presidency of Mr. Adams. But the harmony in which he lived with friends of both parties, and the respect and affection which friends of both parties entertained for him, afford a memorable example, well worthy the serious reflection of those who suppose that political intolerance is essential to political integrity.

I turn with pleasure from the field of politics to objects of a more delightful nature,—the piety, the goodness, the philanthropy of Dr. Wistar. Vain is the splendor of genius without the virtues of the heart. No man who is not *good* deserves the name of *wise*. In the language of Scripture, folly and wickedness are the same; not only because vicious habits do really corrupt and darken the understanding, but because it is no small degree of folly to be ignorant that *the chief good of man is to know the will of his Creator, and do it*. Wistar lived and died in the religious principles of those who have adopted the modest and endearing name of *Friends*.

It is difficult for a physician to be punctual in attendance on public worship. But if Wistar was not punctual, it was not because he was insensible of the duty, but because he was called by other duties to the assistance of his fellow-mortals in another place. He



therefore desired that his family should be regular in attendance at *meeting*, and he himself went when the situation of his patients permitted. In his devotion, as in everything else, he was void of ostentation. But that his mind dwelt much on that important object, I have no manner of doubt. When a youth, at Edinburgh, his friend, Dr. Charles Stewart, made him a present of a neat edition of the Bible, in two small volumes. These he carefully preserved to the day of his death; and it was his custom, when he travelled, always to take one of them with him.

To Wistar, philosophy was the handmaid of religion. She elevated his soul, and warmed his affections.

After loving God with all our heart, the next great commandment is to love our neighbor as ourself. Were I asked to point out the most prominent feature in Wistar's character, I should answer, without hesitation, benevolence. It was a feeling which seems never to have forsaken him, beginning, as it ought, with his own family, and extending to the whole human race. Nor was it that useless sympathy which contents itself with its own sensations. His charity was active, his hand ever seconding the feelings of his heart. Next to religious obligations, and the inviolable sanctity of truth, he impressed on the minds of his children the duty of abstaining from wounding the feelings of any human being; and he made them frequently repeat the precept of our Saviour, "Love one another." Even his person gave evidence of philanthropy; his eye beamed goodwill, and his whole air brought strongly to my mind what Tacitus says, in his description of Agricola, "At first sight you would have believed him to be good, and wished him to be great." This ruling sentiment threw grace over his actions, and inspired his conversation with a charm. He never assumed, never displayed his own superiority. On the contrary, he led the conversation to subjects in which others excelled. The pedantry of technical language he despised, and listened, with patience and politeness, to the observations of inferior understanding. It has been observed that there is no book so dull but something good may be extracted from it. Wistar applied this principle to men, and possessed the remarkable talent of drawing from every one some useful information.

That the kindness of his manner had something uncommonly



attractive, I can myself bear witness. My acquaintance with him commenced at a period of life when the heart no longer yields to the illusions of fancy. Yet, before I had time to be convinced of his goodness, I felt myself drawn towards him by an irresistible charm.

On the death of Dr. Rush, Wistar succeeded him as President of the Society for the Abolition of Slavery. The object of this Society was congenial to his mind. Considering the situation of the Southern States, the subject is delicate. But certainly the introduction of slavery into our country is an event deeply to be lamented, and every wise man must wish for its gradual abolition.

For the Indians of America he seems to have felt a particular kindness. He admired their eloquence, lamented their desolating wars, and earnestly sought for the means of meliorating their condition. Having once inoculated an Indian woman for the small-pox, her husband had fears for the event. Indeed there was some cause for fear, as the woman refused to submit to the proper regimen. The anxiety of the Doctor was extreme. She recovered; but until the danger was over, he declared, that on no occasion had he been more oppressed with the responsibility of his profession.

The gratitude of Wistar was remarkable. Services done, or even intended, he always remembered; but injuries he was ready to forget. In a letter, written at Edinburgh, he declared that he had determined to forgive everything to a friend or near relation, and expressed his belief, that it would contribute greatly to happiness to extend forgiveness to every one. This sentiment gained strength with time, and at length ripened into a governing principle.

To say such a man was a dutiful son, a kind brother, a most affectionate husband and parent, would be matter of supererogation.

But had he no failings, no infirmities? Undoubtedly he had, for he was a man. But I may truly say, they fell not under my observation, and I trust I shall be excused, if I have not been anxious to search for them.

His health, during his last few years, was interrupted by several alarming attacks. About the 14th of January, 1818, he was seized with a malignant fever, attended with symptoms of typhus.

Art proved unavailing, and he sunk under the disease, after an illness of eight days.

He died in the strength of life and vigor of intellect; too soon, indeed, for his family and his country, but not too soon for his own happiness or fame. For honorable age is not that which is measured by length of time, or counted by number of days. But wisdom is the gray hair unto man, and unspotted character is fulness of years. Happy, then, wert thou, Wistar, in death as well as life. Thy work is done,—thou art gone to receive thy reward. Thou wert in the full career of usefulness and fame,—thy heart overflowing with charity,—surrounded by friends, loving and beloved. The last generous emotion of thy benignant spirit shall be reciprocated. All mankind shall wish happiness to him, who dying wished happiness to all.

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### JAMES WOODHOUSE, M.D.

DR. WOODHOUSE was born in Philadelphia, November 17th, 1770. He became Professor of Chemistry in the College of Philadelphia, in 1795, and published several works in that department of science.

He died, June 4th, 1809, of apoplexy, aged thirty-eight years. In 1791, he served as a surgeon in the army of St. Clair. For his improvement in science he visited England and France, in 1802. He published "An Inaugural Dissertation on the Chemical and Medical Properties of the Persimmon Tree;" and "The Analysis of Astringent Vegetables," 1792; "The Young Chemist's Pocket Companion," 1797; "An Answer to Dr. Priestley's Considerations on the Doctrine of Phlogiston and the Decomposition of Water;" an edition of "Chaptal's Chemistry, with Notes," 2 vols. 8vo. 1807. He was the son of an eminent bookseller.

## JOHN WYETH.

THE subject of this brief notice, John Wyeth, who died, January 23d, 1858, in Philadelphia, where he had resided for the last thirty years of his life, was born on the 31st of March, 1770, in Cambridge, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.

His brother, however, a youth, about nineteen years of age, of stout heart, and arm strengthened over the anvil, was one of the band of pretended Indians that, tomahawk in hand, broke up the tea chests, and emptied their contents in Boston harbor,—the first great overt act that fixed and precipitated the coming drama. His own course was of a more peaceful character. Apprenticed, at the age of sixteen, in the office of "The American Recorder," published at Charlestown, Massachusetts, by Allen & Cushing, he remained in the family of Mr. Allen, who continued the publication of the paper, under the new title of "The Massachusetts Gazette," until the fall of 1788, when it ceased to exist.

About this time, Mr. Wyeth repaired to St. Domingo. He was employed as foreman in a newspaper office there, and was a witness to the troubles of the negro insurrection that, in 1791, consigned about two thousand whites to a bloody grave.

In 1793, June 6th, Mr. Wyeth intermarried with the youngest daughter of Mr. Weiss. Shortly before this, viz., November 10th, A.D. 1792, he started a newspaper in Harrisburg, Dauphin County, under the name of "The Oracle of Dauphin." This paper continued in his hands until some time in 1827. It was the first newspaper west of Lancaster City in the State of Pennsylvania, with the solitary exception of "The Carlisle Gazette," published by his brother-in-law, George Kline, in Carlisle. He was appointed Postmaster during the administrations of George Washington and of John Adams. His paper supported the Federal views of that great party during the whole course of its existence. Its columns were open, nevertheless, to the communications of all. In those days, before the principles of republican rule were fully digested, many a nervous essay was put forth on either side of the

question by able men of both parties. The writer of this is not able now to designate them fully. But the old inhabitants of Dauphin County will remember what their fathers have told them of the active exertions and patriotic manifestations of many of them. We can only refer to a few, such as Judge John Joseph Henry, Captain Alexander Graydon, Stacy Potts, Esq., John McClay, Robert Harris, George Fisher, Esq., John Downey, and Abraham Bombaugh.

His life, prolonged through a period of nearly eighty-eight years, was marked by affability and cheerfulness. His philosophy was of a practical character. Life was sweet to him. He seemed to think it was a gift from a bountiful Father for a beneficent purpose, and that he could best show his gratitude by enjoying it. A morose countenance and a sour carping, because things would not at all times arrange themselves to his private satisfaction, formed no part of his ethics. He was exceedingly industrious, and, whilst in business, could always find something for his hands to do. And in later life, when the active concerns of his printing-office and bookstore were transferred to younger hands, he knew how to divide his time between his reading and his social pleasures. And when, at last, the cold hand of death was being placed upon his heart, he received it in a right spirit, and welcomed its icy touch with a contented and a cheerful smile.

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## SAMUEL BROWN WYLIE, D.D.

SAMUEL BROWN WYLIE, D.D., a learned clergyman of the Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, born in 1772, was, for more than fifty years, pastor of the First Reformed Presbyterian Church in that city, and was also Professor of Ancient Languages in the University of Pennsylvania. Few men have ranked higher than Dr. Wylie in classical literature and theological attainments, as a successful teacher, a good pastor, or a practical Christian. He died, October 14th, 1852, at the age of eighty years.

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